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THE MORNING STAR

THE MORNING STAR.

VOL. LIX.—NO. 83. WILMINGTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1896. WHOLE NO. 9,074

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
REDUCED TO $5.00.
BUT NO REDUCTION IN SIZE OF PAPER,
OR IN QUANTITY OR QUALITY OF READING MATTER.

18 DECEMBER 96

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Port Almanac—December 30.

Sun Rises	7.11 A M
Sun Sets	4.55 P M
Day's Length	9 h 44 m
High Water at Southport	3.16 P M
High Water at Wilmington	4.59 P M

The Weather.

U. S. DEP'T OF AGRICULTURE.
WEATHER BUREAU.
WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec 30.

Meteorological data for yesterday:

Temperature: 8 a. m., 37°; 8 p. m., 57° maximum, 69°; minimum, 35°; mean, 48°;

Rainfall for the day, T; rainfall since 1st of month up to date, 3.11.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 28.—At 8 a. m. the stage of water in the Cape Fear river was 4.9 feet.

FORECAST FOR TO-DAY.

For North Carolina, partly cloudy; probably light showers on the coast; northeasterly winds.

OUTLINES.

Count Huitfeldt, of Denmark, and Miss Louise Eugenie Bonaparte were married in Baltimore yesterday. —— While working at a fire in New York city four firemen were caught in a back draught and seriously burned. —— L Snellberger & Son, dry goods merchants of South Baltimore, have assigned. —— The Commercial National Bank, of Roanoke, Va., and the Columbia National Bank and Washington Bank, of Minneapolis, Minn., have suspended. —— Application has been made for a receiver for the American Trust and Banking Company, of Auburn, Me. —— Mr. Gladstone celebrated his 87th birthday yesterday. —— Small pox and cholera are epidemic at Japanese and Chinese ports. —— The second day of the tariff hearings before the House Committee on Ways and Means was devoted to cotton manufactures. —— The Atlantic Coast Line will begin the tenth season of their New York and Florida special on January 18th. —— It is stated that the Spanish Ministry propose to give the Cubans a larger measure of home rule than they have heretofore enjoyed. —— Fifteen defenceless Cubans were killed by Spanish troops and reported as insurgents killed in an engagement. —— The London *Times* says that Spain is carrying on negotiations with the United States. —— The condition of Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, who fell and fractured her hip a few days ago, remains critical. —— An aged and helpless woman, almost starved to death, was discovered in a house in the woods near Pomona, N. J., alone with the dead body of her husband. —— The Phœnix Woollen Company of Providence, R. I., has filed a petition of insolvency. —— The arrival of Princess Caraman-Chimay, formerly Miss Clara Ward, of Detroit, at Budapest with the married Gypsy she eloped with created a lively sensation; the Princess and her paramour visited the theatres, and appear to enjoy their notoriety —— New York markets: Money on call was easy at 2 per cent., last loan at 2 per cent., closing offered at 2 per cent.; cotton steady—middling 7 1-16c; Southern flour was dull but steady—common to fair extra $3 00@3 85; good to choice $3 85@3 85; wheat—spot dull and firmer; ungraded red 80c@$1.02; corn—spot dull and firm; No. 2, 29½@30c at elevator and 30½@31c afloat; rosin quiet—strained common to good $1.75; spirits turpentine steady at 26½@27½c.

New York is planning for a Botanical Garden, which will embrace 250 acres, and will be the third largest in the world.

Seventy thousand men are kept employed in the construction of the trans Siberian Railway, which it is expected will reach the Pacific by 1900.

Alfred Nobel, the inventor of nitro-glycerine, accumulated a fortune of $10,000,000, and left it all to the University of Stockholm when he died a few days ago.

The latest organization in Sioux City is a Servant Girls' Protective Association, which we presume will be speedily followed by a Housekeepers' Relief Association.

A New York paper pronounces the condition of Western banks sound outside of the Populist States. Are Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin Populist States? Every one of them voted for the yellow metal and the "advance agent of prosperity."

One of our contemporaries finds fault with the "loose divorce laws" of this country. But what are divorce laws for? Ain't they to loosen the knot that binds, when people come not to like the knot, and want to get loose?

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Attention is called to the following REDUCED RATES of Subscription to THE MORNING STAR:

TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

Twelve Months	$5.00
Six "	2.50
Three "	1.25
Two "	1.00
One "	50

TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

The STAR will be delivered by carrier at any point in the city at 12 cents per week, or 45 cents per month.

Person county, Ga., trots out the champion pair of projenitors, Wm Turner and wife, aged respectively 101 and 99 years, who, according to the Dahlonega *Nugget*, are the parents of 12 children, 327 grandchildren, 159 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, numbering a total flock of 499.

The experts who were called on to give their opinions as to the sanity or Mari Barberi in New York when she was on her second trial for killing the fellow who betrayed her, put in a bill for $10,000, and now after all their testimony Mari isn't right sure whether she is sane or crazy.

Pole hunting has been a profitable business with Dr. Nansen, who, it is said, has pocketed $100,000 by his writings since he came back from his last venture. When he gets through with that he can turn his attention to the other pole, which has been very much slighted.

An exchange remarks that "there ought to be some way in which a bank examiner can tell whether a national bank is loaning in excess of the legal limit to any one person." There is but the bank examiners, generally speaking, do not go out of their way to find it.

Europe isn't fast at catching on to new things. There are in all European countries only 560 miles of electric railway, while there are 13,133 miles in this country. But this country is a good deal faster than those on the other side of the big pond.

The Secretary of the Kansas Farmers' Alliance says the organization will be disbanded at its meeting in January. The Alliance got along very well until it was roped into politics, and then it began to go down.

The Chicago *Inter Ocean* wants to know "when should a girl marry?" That will depend on the girl. All girls are not alike. The average girl doesn't bother herself with questions, but marries the first good chance she gets.

It is said that there are coal deposits enough in the United States to last a thousand years. But the Coal Trusts corner on it all the same as if there wasn't enough to last for ten years.

The Spaniards say the Cubans are incapable of self-government. If they couldn't govern themselves better than Spain governs them, they would be fit subjects for the commiseration or contempt of the world.

It is said that the Dunkards have bought 41,000 acres of land in one county in Indiana and will buy the rest of the county if they can and run a little republic of their own on the Dunkard plan.

With all they have in sight the Republicans will have only 44 Senators in the next Congress, lacking one of a tie, which will tie them up on much of their contemplated devilment.

Out of 16,000,000 population in Spain there are 11,000,000 who can neither read nor write, and these are the people who say the Cubans are incapable of self-government.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

JAS G BURR—Notice.
JOB OFFICE—For sale.
THOS J GORE—Collector's notice.
F. M. SIMMONS—Notice of seizure.

LOCAL DOTS.

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There and Briefly Noted.

— Capts. E. E. Groom and W. H. Gannon, inspectors of steamboats for this district, are in the city on business.

— The Wilmington Telephone Exchange has a handsome sign hung outside their office in the Wilmington National Bank building.

— Howard Relief F. E. Co. No. 1 had their engine, the "Adrian," out last night to test the pumps recently repaired, new valves being put in. Everything worked satisfactorily.

— William McKinley, the "advance agent of prosperity," is reporting promptly every day. Bank failures, factories shutting down, assignments, receiverships, &c., are announced with painful regularity. Luckily, the South has been almost entirely exempt from these recent misfortunes.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Pertinent Paragraphs Pertaining Principally to People and Pointedly Printed.

— Dr. G. D. Bernheim returned from Newbern yesterday.

— Mr. Joseph H. Pippen, of Enfield, was in the city yesterday.

— Judge H. G. Connor, of Wilson, arrived in the city last evening.

— Mr. Frank T. Mills went to Whiteville yesterday on a business trip.

— Messrs. W. G. Clark and Henry Johnston, of Tarboro, arrived in the city yesterday.

— Mr. Thomas Sing, of Iredell, Brunswick county, was in the city yesterday with country produce.

— Messrs. S. A. Edmund and Frank Gough, of Lumberton, were among hotel registrations yesterday.

— Messrs. A. H. Lennon and M. J. Ward, of Whiteville, Columbus county, spent a short while in the city yesterday.

— Mr. O. L. Hall, of Doctortown, Ga., was a visitor at the STAR office yesterday, returning to his old home, Elizabethtown, to spend several days.

— Other arrivals were A. P. Brown, N. C.; S. F. Craig, Southport; Thos. C. Harris, Raleigh; Wm. G. Womble, Mayesville; W. W. McCormac, Rowland; D. R Ornsby, Scott's Hill.

Cape Fear and Yadkin.

The announcement made in the telegraphic department of the STAR yesterday that "it was understood" that Judge Simonton's order in the case of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway Company would be for the sale of the road as a whole, and not in sections as asked for by some of the parties interested, was read with great satisfaction by the people of Wilmington. Judge Simonton will be in this city January 14th, when the decree of the U. S. Circuit Court will be issued.

While it has always seemed, even to those not versed in the law, that the equities of the case were on the side of the parties who opposed the dismemberment of the road and its sale by divisions, yet there was an apprehension that this view might not be sustained by the Court.

Not only financially, but commercially, Wilmington is deeply interested in the future of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway, and she rejoices at the prospects of its bright future.

BY RIVER AND RAIL.

Receipts of Naval Stores and Cotton Yesterday.

Wilmington & Weldon R. R.—14 bales cotton, 8 bbls tar.

Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta R. R.—891 bales cotton, 87 casks spirits turpentine, 116 bbls rosin, 76 bbls tar, 6 bbls crude turpentine.

Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley R. R.—6 casks spirits turpentine, 29 bbls tar.

Steamer Frank Sessoms—350 bbls rosin, 29 bbls tar.

Steamer E. A. Hawes—253 bbls rosin, 87 bbls tar, 10 bbls crude turpentine.

Total receipts—Cotton, 606 bales; spirits turpentine, 48 casks; rosin, 709 bbls; tar, 191 bbls; crude turpentine, 16 bbls.

W. L. I.

At a meeting of the Wilmington Light Infantry held last night, the following non-commissioned officers were elected:

First Sergeant—G. A. Cartwell.
Second Sergeant—C. H. Cooper.
Third Sergeant—A. P. Adrian.
Fourth Sergeant—T. D. Love.
Fifth Sergeant—Jno. D. Bellamy, Jr.
3d.
First Corporal—J. V. B. Metts.
Second Corporal—W. A. Whiting.
Third Corporal—J. C. James.
Fourth Sergeant—N. E. Gillican.

A Good Resolution.

It is getting time to make resolutions governing one's conduct and plans for the new year. While different people need to resolve with different ends in view, there is one class in particular, namely, the business men of this city, to which the STAR begs leave to suggest a resolution. Resolve, beginning with January 1, to advertise your business if you are not already doing it; to advertise it every day; and to advertise it in the STAR.

The Dispatch Boat Advance.

The New York *Herald's* dispatch boat *Advance*, which went ashore Sunday night in the basin near "The Rocks," about twenty miles from the city, will soon be afloat again. She will be supplied with coal from Southport, and is now only waiting a breeze from the land to be on her journey. The boat is described as a steam yacht about the size of the tug *Navassa*, which plies between this city and the Navassa Guano Works up the river.

Distillery Closed by Internal Revenue Officers.

A small registered distillery for the manufacture of corn whiskey, which has been in operation a few months past on Smith's creek near the city, was closed yesterday by Mr. W. T. Cabo, deputy collector of internal revenue, on account of alleged irregularities. The still, a small affair, and a few barrels of whiskey, composing the stock on hand, were removed and locked up in the government warehouse on Water street.

One Cent a Word.

Hereafter advertisements to go in our "Business Locals" department will be charged one cent per word for each insertion; but no advertisement, however short, will be taken for less than 20 cents.

This is a reduction from former rates and it is also a convenience to advertisers who can calculate the exact cost of their advertisements, which must be paid for always in advance.

If there is anything you want, advertise for it. Is there anything you don't want? Advertise it in the Business Locals of the STAR. One cent a word. But no ad taken for less than 20 cents. tf

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

Sunday Schools of the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches—Santa Claus—Mirth and Music—Fun and Feasting For the Little Folks.

The little folks were having a good time last night. At the First Presbyterian, First Baptist, Grace M. E. and St. Andrew's Churches, there were Christmas entertainments, consisting of songs, recitations, dialogues, and everything else that the minds of the ingenious could devise.

AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

"The Message of Christmas" was opened with reading of the Scriptures by Mr. George E. Leftwich. Rev. W. B. Oliver followed with prayer, after which the Superintendent spoke briefly.

The stage was prepared to represent an ice grotto. Mr. A. S. Holden represented "Santa Claus," Miss Elsie Calder "Winter," Mr. W. H. Alderman "The Storm King," and Master Earle Webb "Jack Frost." Mr. Holden sang "Rise, My Trusty Herald!" and was followed by "For What Would Winter Be?" sung by Mr. Holden, Mr. W. H. Alderman and Miss Elsie Calder. "When the Earth Grows Tired," by Miss Calder, came next. Mr. W. H. Alderman sang "I Come with a Rush and a Roar."

There were several choruses by the children, all of which were well sung, but the one entitled "'Tis More Blessed to Give" deserved special praise.

Little Miss Fay Pearce, of New York, won much praise by the way in which she sang "Rock-a-by-Baby." Miss Bessie Burt was pianist and played with rare skill and effect.

The success of the occasion was due in a large measure to the efforts of the Committee on Arrangement, Mrs. C. O. Byerly, Mrs. W. P. Oldham, Jr., and Miss Annie Calder, and the Committee on Decorations, Mrs. W. H. Alderman, Mrs. S. H. Burt, Mrs. Geo. E. Leftwich, Miss Fanny White, Miss Annie Calder, Miss Gussie Harris and Mrs. W. P. Oldham, Jr.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

The scholars and teachers of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Sunday school were treated to a unique Christmas entertainment last night in the shape of a large "Christmas Bell," trimmed in gold and hung with popcorn, candies and other Christmas gifts. A large number were in attendance and thoroughly enjoyed the following programme:

Singing, by the school, "Praise the Saviour."
Twenty-third Psalm, by the school.
Prayer, by the pastor, Rev. A. D. McClure.
Quartet, "Hark, the joyful song of angels," by Misses Bissett and Calloway and Messrs. J. C. Stewart and W. P. Monroe; Miss P. Britt, organist.
Solo, "Star of Bethlehem," by Miss Calloway.
Hymn, by the school, "What a wonderful Saviour."
Address by the pastor.

When the programme was concluded, the Christmas bell rang out and Mr. Jas. W. Monroe, as Santa Claus, appeared and gave teachers and scholars a present.

The bell was the handiwork of Mr. J. C. Stewart.

The following committee of ladies arranged everything: Mrs. W. C. Von Glahn, Mrs. M. O. Calloway, Mrs. R. M. Miles, Mrs. Kate Monroe and Miss P. Britt.

GRACE M. E. CHURCH

The Christmas entertainment at Grace M. E. Church was under the direction of Mrs. A. C. Craft and Mrs. Katie C. Shaw. Mr. Horace A. Bagg, Jr., personated "Santa Claus," and distributed presents to the children. Miss Fannie Corbett, organist, and Mr. Albert Dosher, cornet, furnished delightful music.

The programme was as follows:

Song, "Praise the Lord for Childhood Days," school.
Scripture selection, superintendent.
Prayer by the pastor.
Welcome chorus, by a number of boys and girls.
Duet, "Ye Merry Bells," Misses Scott and Galloway.
Recitation, "Two Homeless Children," Miss Mary Lewis.
Conversation about Christmas, by seventeen girls and boys.
Recitation, "Little Benny," Miss Bessie Oldham.
Song, "Christmas Thoughts," school.
Recitation, "Our Jesus," by eight little children.
Recitation, "The Christ is Come," Miss Louise Van Laer.
Duet, "Jesus Bids Us Shine," Misses Westbrook and Skinner.
Song, "The Wondrous Birth," school.
Recitation, "How Santa Claus Comes," by four little girls.
Song, "Glad Tidings," by the School.
Recitation, "Two Little Stockings," Miss May Rose.
Song and recitation, "The Christmas Story," by a number of girls and boys.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The children of the Sunday school assembled in Abbie Chadbourn Memorial Hall last evening for their annual festival. Dr. Hoge, the pastor of the church, made a short address, there were songs by the children, and refreshments were served. "The killing of the pig" was an amusing feature of the evening's entertainment. The pig, made of clay, was fed with contributions for the endowment of cots in the hospital maintained in China by Dr. Worth, medical missionary. Just before the close of the entertainment the pig was knocked in the head by Master Peyton Hoge and found to contain $18 79.

— Rev. Thomas R. MacRae died in South Union, Kentucky, on the 27th inst. He was a man of fine intellect and an eloquent speaker. He was a son of the late Col. John MacRae and a brother of Judge James C. MacRae, of Fayetteville, and of Mrs. Wm. L. Smith, of Wilmington. He was sixty-five years old.

RALEIGH NEWS BUDGET

STATE TREASURER WORTH'S BIENNIAL REPORT.

Statement of Expenditures—Estimated Expenses of the State for the Next Two Years—The Cost of Public Printing—Secretary Hyams Opens Headquarters for Senator Pritchard.

[*Special Star Correspondence.*]

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 29.

Secretary Hyams, of the Republican State Executive Committee, and who is associated with Senator Pritchard in Washington, will arrive here to-day to open headquarters for the Republican Senator. Senator Pritchard will arrive here the latter part of the week, certainly before Sunday.

At last it has been ascertained what the public printing cost under the supervision of the Messrs. Stewart, as compared with the cost under the contract held by Mr. Josephus Daniels in the years of 1893 and 1894. The State printing in the year '93 cost $17 085 57, and the year '94 it amounted to $9,747 89. The total cost of the printing done under Mr. Daniels' administration of the department, was $26 833.16. For the year '95, the State paid Messrs. Stewart $20,567.58 for printing done. The cost of the printing during the present year was $13,786 78, not including a bill for work done during the past year, which Messrs. Stewart switched over to the coming year, apparently in order to keep down their very large bill. This was for printing done during November. The bill was $1,948.98. The total cost of the printing under Messrs. Stewart's contract for the past two years is $35,434.34, which is exclusive of the work done for the Railroad Commission and the various institutions. The Stewarts' contract cost the State $8,891.18 more than Daniel's for the same length of time. These figures will appear in the Auditor's report, and are taken from the records.

Marshal Carroll sent Wm. Pender sentenced to four years and H. H. Allen sentenced to eighteen months, for counterfeiting, to the Albany penitentiary yesterday.

State Treasurer Worth has completed his biennial report for the past two fiscal years and has submitted it to the Governor. The Treasurer reports an accumulated balance of $108,740.41 to the credit of the sinking fund. This fund is held in reserve for the sole purpose of redeeming old construction bonds. During the past year eleven of these old bonds at $1,000 each with coupons attached were redeemed, making the total cost of the eleven bonds $14,790. Twenty-five of these bonds are yet outstanding.

A section of the Code requires the Treasurer to furnish the General Assembly at the commencement of each session with estimates of the expenses of the State Government and the rates of taxation necessary to pay the same for the two years next succeeding the close of the last fiscal year, with a scheme in the form of a revenue bill to sustain such estimates.

Treasurer Worth, in making the estimates, used his shears rather freely. In only one instance did he recommend an increased appropriation, and that was for the State Normal and Industrial School for girls. The appropriation to the Normal last year was $17,500 and the Treasurer recommends that it be increased to $30,000, the same that is given the University. He cuts out the $500 appropriation to the Guilford battle-ground. The Treasurer estimates the cost of the Judiciary to be $60,000, while last year it was $61,785 56, rewards for fugitives of justice $3,000, over $4,507.09 last year; State hospital $90 000, over $100,000 last year; Eastern Hospital, $35,000, over $47,500 last year; North Carolina Insane Asylum, $60,000, over $65,948 60 last year; pensions, $105,000, over $100,971 last year; State Guard, $6,000, over $7,311.36 last year; State Library, $500, over $1,608.74. An estimate of $30,000 per year is made for the penitentiary. The penitentiary took $30 000 of its appropriation in 1895 and $5,000 in 1896. The loss of much grain by the Roanoke freshets will require a more than normal appropriation next year.

Treasurer Worth estimates the expenses of the State for the next two years at $891,850 per year. The expenditures for the past two years are far in excess of this. He says the above estimate will, in his judgment, cover the needs of the objects named.

In his report the Treasurer suggests that in view of the increased tendency on the part of the county and State officers to make their bonds with bonding and trusting companies, those doing business in the State should be required to deposit good collateral with the State Treasurer and also relinquish their right of appeal from the decisions of our State Courts to the Federal Courts.

Under the sub-division of banks the Treasurer reports that they seem to be in a sound and prosperous condition. He adds: "There might be some additional protection thrown around the depositors without doing any injustice to the banks."

In commenting on the management of the penitentiary Mr. Worth says: "I think the management of the penitentiary very good."

The report comments on the fact that the aggregate valuation of all taxable property is only $387,487,000, a falling off of nearly five and a half millions. The tax rate, the report says will be dependent upon the amount of appropriations made by the Legislature. The present valuation at 95c. for the State will yield $548 598 07; 8 cents for pensions, $77,-331 16; and 18 cents for schools, $465,-836 96.

Under the act to "compromise, commute and settle the State debt," $6,860-706 of 4 per cent. bonds have been issued in exchange for the old valid debt of the State. It would require $865 070 more of four per cent. bonds to take up the remainder of the old bonds outstanding.

The receipts from the oyster industry have been $6,859 91 and the disbursements $5,000.00. The Treasurer says in commenting upon this: "There seems to be a lack of a thorough understanding of this whole subject on the part of our law makers. While the oyster industry should be, under proper laws and their proper execution, a source of considerable revenue to the State, the effects of all the laws on the subject hitherto have been to entangle the whole business in a mess of inextricable confusion, impossible of comprehension, and leading to interminable litigation and exposure to the State. Wise legislation on this subject is of great importance now.

Brother Worth has no high opinion of the State's steamer, *The Lillie*. He says the steamer *Lillie* has not done one act of service in two years and has cost the State $1,884 58 per year for the past two years, just to keep the several thousand dollars of the State's funds which are wrapped up in the useless luxury from utter decay and loss. If there is any money in the craft it should be landed into the Treasury. The strained condition of the Treasury and of the tax payers at this time do not justify the maintenance of the craft as a simple ornament to the wharf, or a veritable barnacle on the Treasury.

Treasurer Worth congratulates the sheriffs and tax collectors of the State who at the end of the fiscal year made full payments. Only three sheriffs were indulged and they have settled promptly. The Treasurer takes occasion to publicly express his appreciation of the earnest and faithful work of his chief clerk, Mr. J. W. Denmark.

L'Agile Cotillon Club.

A *recherche* affair was the Christmas german of L'Agile Cotillon Club at Germania hall last night. The many fair daughters and handsome sons present were gracefully led through a select number of german figures by Mr. Warren Johnson, assisted by Mr. Robert Rankin. Haywood's string band of Raleigh furnished the music.

The attendants were Mr. Henry Peschau, Miss Sophia Busbee; Mr. Tom Wright, Miss Abbie Chadbourn; Mr. Jas. Stevenson, Miss Sue McQueen; Mr. Clarence French, Miss Kate Cantwell; Mr. Geo. Chadbourn, Miss Julia Daggett; Mr. R. F. Crow, Miss Annie Busbee; Mr. Keith Calder, Miss May Latimer; Mr. Pride Thomas, Miss Brady; Mr. Swift Boatwright, Miss Alice Boatwright; Mr. Charles Lewis, Miss Wilmerding; Mr. Lonnie Southerland, Miss Lizzie Cotchett; Mr. Tom Davis, Miss Nessie Cotchett; Mr. Robert Rankin, Miss Emma West; Mr. W. G. Howard, Miss Annie Kidder; Mr. Louis Cutler, Miss Lois Wright; Mr. Milton Elliott, Miss Lucille Murchison; Mr. Arthur Belden, Miss Josephine Shaner; Mr. Dawson Latham, Miss Lucy Latham; Mr. Dick Bradley, Miss May Treat Peck; Mr. McRee, Hatch, Miss Janie Peck; Mr. Joe Cotton, Miss Rhea Daggett; Mr. Tenie Woodard, Miss Annie Lee; Mr. Harry Latimer, Miss Betty DeRosset; Mr. W. W. Vick, Miss Annie DeRosset; Mr. Jas. Munds, Miss Sallie Kenan; Mr. Sam. Collier, Miss Oberia Rogers; Mr. Kirby Collier, Miss Mary L. McKoy; Mr. Clayton Giles, Miss Edith Whiting; Mr. Richard Bunting, Miss Mary Calder; Mr. Harry Latham, Miss Mary West; Mr. Geo. Crow, Miss Augusta Wiggins; Mr. Bradley, Miss Lizzie Peck; Mr. J. V. B. Metts, Miss Evans; Mr. Gaston Myers, Miss Fannie Green; Mr. Fred. Dick, Miss Lola Martin; Mr. Walter Daggett, Miss Busbee, Mr. Sam Vick, Miss Prescott.

The visiting ladies present were Miss Wilmerding, of Suwannee, Tenn.; Miss Brady, of Fayetteville; Miss Prescott, of Weldon; Miss Rogers, of Waynesville; Miss Wright, of Portsmouth, Va; Miss Evans, of Reidsville, and the three Misses Busbee, of Raleigh.

The visiting gentlemen were Mr. Bradley, of New Haven, Conn.; Mr. Joe Cotton, of Washington; Mr. Joe Pippen, of Enfield, Mr. Dekoy of New York, and Messrs. W. S. Howard, W. G. Clark and Henry Johnston, of Tarboro.

TERMS FOR CUBAN PEACE.

A Report That Mr. Olney and Senor de Lome Have Practically Finished Negotiations.

[*Washington Post*]

"It is learned from an authoritative source that Secretary Olney and Senor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish minister, have practically terminated the negotiations on the Cuban question, which are to be submitted to Congress when it convenes January 5. The terms of the agreement are based on the recent official communication from Premier Canovas, addressed to the Secretary of State.

"The Premier clearly states the terms which Spain will accord to the insurgents and practically asks the United States to propose these conditions to her rebellious subjects. In return for our good offices Spain assures this government that she sincerely deplores the great commercial loss which we have sustained on account of the Cuban disturbance. She assures us that she is even now considering a reciprocity treaty which will deal mainly with Cuban products and which will be framed in such advantageous terms towards this government that our losses both in commerce and in the destruction of American property in Cuba will be generously compensated.

"Premier Canovas says that Spain cannot, of course, as a self-respecting and respected nation, stand before the world as having been coerced into measures by the United States. She has freely granted all that she now offers, and that in the face of a rebellion. But she accepts the good offices of the United States to act as mediator and to guarantee to the insurgents amnesty and the enforcement of the new reform law which she is about to proclaim in Cuba.

"The form of government offered is, the Spanish statesman declares, the limit of independence which can be granted to a province by any nation without absolutely severing the bonds of union with the mother country. Autonomy, as enjoyed by the Canadians, can never be granted in Cuba.

"What Spain is willing to grant the insurgents if they lay down their arms, and what she asks the United States to guarantee, is an act which provides for a council of administration, which shall control all matters pertaining to the commerce of the Indies and the estimates upon the general taxation and expenditures of the island as well as its general home government."

Mr. Starr Johnson.

The master of the schooner *Ann L. Lockwood*, in a letter to Messrs. Geo. Harriss, Son & Co., ship brokers of this city, confirms the report that Mr. Starr Johnson was a member of the crew of the ill-fated schooner *Frank M. Noyes*, lost at sea on the morning of Wednesday, December 2d. He says that Mr. Johnson went out on the *Lockwood* to the West Indies, and at St. Croix was transferred at his own request to the schooner *Noyes*, which was about to sail for Baltimore, Mr. Johnson being anxious to reach a port in the United States in time to spend Christmas at his home in Wilmington, N. C.

Watch Night Services.

At Fifth Street Methodist church on to-morrow (Thursday) night, beginning at 10.15 o'clock and continuing until a few minutes after 12 o'clock. In view of these services there will be no prayer meeting service to-night.

THE MORNING STAR.

Are you a subscriber to THE MORNING STAR? If not, why not?

Do you want a first-class daily paper at $5.00 per year, or $1.25 for three months? If so, subscribe to THE MORNING STAR.

Do you want a paper that prints the latest telegraphic news, the best local news, reliable market reports, excellent short stories, and the choicest miscellaneous matter? If so, subscribe to THE MORNING STAR.

Do not forget that THE MORNING STAR is the cheapest daily of its class in North Carolina. Its price is $5.00, while the published price of others ranges from $7.00 to $8.00.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFERS HIS SERvices to the public as accountant, copyist or in revising manuscripts on literary or scientific subjects on reasonable terms for such work.

JAS G BURR,
dec 30 tf No. 419 Mulberry street.

For Sale.

A COMPLETE JOB PRINTING OUTFIT. Five Presses, Paper Cutter, &c., and an abundance of type. Material been in use but a short time and in excellent condition. Will be sold at a sacrifice for cash. For further information address "JOB OFFICE."
dec 30 1t CAPE FEAR STAR Office.

Collector's Notice.

HAVING BEEN APPOINTED COLLECTOR of the estate of C. H. Capps, deceased, by the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Hanover County, I hereby notify all persons indebted to the said C. H. Capps to make immediate payment to me, and those to whom the said Capps was indebted at the time of his death will present their claims to me before the 25th day of December, 1897, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. THOS. J. GORE, Collector.
dec 30 tf

Notice of Seizure.

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY Belonging to The Cypress Distilling Company has been seized for violation of the Internal Revenue laws of United States, and are held in custody by virtue of said laws, to-wit: Seven (7) casks of corn whiskey, one cooper still and fixtures, cub oil contents about seventy (70) gallons. All persons claiming said property will come forward and give bond as required by Section 3460, revised statutes of the United States of America, within thirty days from the date of this notice, or the same will be forfeited to the government and sold as provided for in said section.

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 29th, 1896.
F. M. SIMMONS,
Collector Internal Revenue, 4th District N. C.
By W. T. CAHO, Deputy Collector.
dec 30 D1t Wed 1 8 15 22

Cash Paid
—FOR—
Beeswax.

If you have some to sell ship it to us and we will allow you

26 CENTS PER POUND

for it in Boston and no charge for commission or for carting. References all through the South if required. Ship by direct steamer to Boston, new line.

W. H. BOWDLEAR & CO.,
Boston, Mass.
dec 23 3m Office and Warehouse 36 Central Wharf.

XMAS PRICES AT MERCER & EVANS'

Fit your feet with our SHOES. They fit well, look well and wear well. Try them! Respectfully,

Mercer & Evans,
Successor to H. C. Evans.
113 Princess St. dec 25 tf

Shoes For The Boys.

Boys are apt to be hard on Shoes, but we have the Shoes adapted to rough usage. One pair of our youth's Kangaroo Calf Lace Shoes at $1.25, or a pair of our "Little Dude" Shoes at $1.25 will convince you that for economy we have the Shoe. Be sure and see them before purchasing elsewhere.

Geo. R. French & Sons.
nov 28 tf

Combination Bicycle FOR SALE.

A Combination "Crusader" Bicycle, for either lady or gentleman. Cushion Tires. Brand new. Will be sold cheap. Call in person, or address M., at
ap 7 tf STAR OFFICE.

L. H. Peterson and Henry McLean,

THE EXPERT BARBERS, CAN BE FOUND at No. 11 South Front street, where they will be pleased to serve their friends. First class work guaranteed. Shaving 10 cents. Give us a call.

Respectfully,
A. FREMPERT,
dec 30 tf No. 11 South Front street.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
REDUCED TO $5.00.
BUT NO REDUCTION IN SIZE OF PAPER,
OR IN QUANTITY OR QUALITY OF READING MATTER.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Christmas Purchasers.

Just Received

A large stock of the following

Wines & Liquors:

Native N. C. Scuppernong Wine.
Cooking Sherry Wine.
Duff Gordon's Wine, imported.
G. H. Mumm's Champagne.
Werner's Champagne.
Cochrane & Cantrel's Ginger Ale.
Bass' Ale.
Guiness' Stout
Old Breezeland Rye.
Pure native North Carolina Mountain Corn Whiskey.
Apple and Peach Brandy.
At low prices. Give us a call.

SOL. BEAR,
No. 18 Market Street,
dec 23 tf Wilmington, N. C.

NOTICE.

Wanted, Furs of All Kinds.
Highest New York market prices.
Express and freight charges paid.
Returns made the day goods are received.
Quotations furnished upon request.

SAM'L BEAR, Sr.,
13 Market Street.
dec 23 tf

Coats' Cotton.

1000	Dozen Coats' Cotton,
1000	Pounds Ball Cotton,
1200	Pounds Soap, all grades,
3000	Pounds Tobacco,
150	Bags Shot,
240	Kegs Nails,
100	Bags Meal,
25	Bags Hudnut's Grits.

W. B. COOPER.
dec 27 1 Daw Wilmington, N. C.

COAL! COAL!!

The Very Best Grade of

SOFT COAL,

from Virginia and Tennessee. None better. All lumps.

THE VERY THING for a bright cheerful grate fire

ONLY $4 50 PER TON, CASH.

CHEAPER THAN WOOD.

Telephone—Bell 94, Inter-State 148.

W. E. WORTH & CO.
dec 25 tf

14 Cents
a pound for
SPRINGFIELD HAMS.

The Name Tells the Story.

"NUFF SAID,"

I have them. You want them?

S. W. SANDERS,
At the "Unlucky Corner."
dec 19 tf

Just Received

A Fresh Stock of

Christmas Dainties.

ANDREW MAVRONICHOLS,
705 North Fourth St

Call and see him for all kinds of Fruits and Nuts. Fine line of Candy at 10 and 15c per pound. Splendid variety of Fireworks also.
dec 29 3t

FRANK H. STEDMAN,

Real Estate Broker,

DEALER IN

STOCKS AND BONDS

Loans Negotiated.

Office in STAR Building, first floor.
dec 13 Tu

NOTICE.

Foreclosure Sale of Real Estate.

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE OF THE SUperior Court of New Hanover county, in the cause wherein pending wherein Thomas A. Gore is plaintiff and E. W. Hewlett and wife Fannie F. Hewlett are defendants, made at the September term, 1896, the undersigned Commissioner therein appointed will expose for sale, at the Court House door, on Friday, the 8th day of January, 1897, at 12 o'clock M., to the highest bidder, at public auction, that certain all that lot of land in the City of Wilmington, N. C., bounded and described as follows: Beginning on a point in the northern line of Dock street 110 feet west of the northwestern intersection of Eighth and Dock streets, and running thence westwardly along the said northern line of Dock street 66 feet; thence northwardly parallel with Eighth street 200 feet; thence eastwardly parallel with Dock street 66 feet, and thence southwardly parallel with Eighth street 200 feet to Dock street, the beginning; the same being part of lots 4 and 5 in Block 16, in the City of Wilmington, and the same sold on by mortgage to the plaintiff by the defendants which is recorded in Deed book 44 et seq., of Book No. 19 of the Records in the Office of the Register of Deeds of New Hanover county, N. C. This the 8th day of December, 1896.

JOHN G. MARSHALL,
dec 9 30th Commissioner.

Do Not Be Contented

until you have seen our

Holiday Novelties.

The largest stock of FINE PERFUMES, &c., in the city to select from.

JAMES D. NUTT,
dec 22 tf The Druggist.

The Morning Star.

By WILLIAM H. BERNARD.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 30, 1896

FINANCIAL DEPENDENCE.

In some respects this is a great country, the greatest country in the world, and yet in other respects it is in a condition of shameful dependency on other nations. We are not only dependent for many manufactured articles which we could and should manufacture ourselves and for natural and agricultural products which this country could produce if the proper effort were made, but with all our boasted wealth we let other countries dictate our financial policies and are dependent upon them for the money with which we build and equip our railroads, establish steamship lines, improve our cities, open and operate mines and do sundry other things which require a large amount of money. Even our Government is at times dependent upon the assistance of foreign money-lenders for the money to meet emergencies.

There is no more excuse for this than there is for our buying abroad the things that we can make or produce at home, nor as much, for no country as rich and resourceful as this is, should be dependent upon any other country for a dollar, and no country as rich and resourceful as this is, should be without its own financial policy. Financial independence is almost, if not quite as important as political independence. It might be disputed that a nation which is financially dependent upon other nations, is really politically independent in the treatment of these questions which most directly affect the prosperity and happiness of its own people. The indebtedness due by our Government, by our railroads and other enterprises to the money lenders of other countries is estimated at $5,000,000,000, one half the value of the railroads in the United States and nearly one twelfth of our estimated national wealth. The annual interest on this amounts to about $300,000,000 and that must be paid and paid in gold, paid in gold because our so-called statesmen were stupid or criminal enough to demonetize silver, and adopt the gold standard of the countries that we borrow money from.

To pay this interest in gold takes at least $400,000,000 of the earnings of the railroads and other debtors who owe it, for they have to buy the gold and pay the difference between the value of that and the currency with which they buy it. There are very few of our principal railroads which do not carry more or less indebtedness abroad, and some of them a very heavy indebtedness, so heavy that they have been swamped in the effort to carry it. This is what has put nearly one-half the railroad mileage of this country in the hands of receivers within the past five or six years, and what will put more of them in the hands of receivers and eventually in the hands of European bond holders if our present financial system be perpetuated.

We ship to other countries annually the surplus products of our fields and millions of dollars worth of manufactures, and it takes more than the difference between the value of these and our imports to pay the annual interest on our debts to foreigners.

The advocates and defenders of the monetary system which results in this tell us that there is money enough in this country. If there is money enough why are we forced to go abroad to borrow? Why do we owe $5,000,000,000 on the other side of the ocean? We go abroad to borrow money because interest charges are lower there than with us. This is proof that have not money enough, for if we had interest charges would be as low here as they are there, and there would be no occasion to go abroad to find "cheap" money.

Our $62,000,000,000 of national wealth ought to be equivalent to that much banking capital and yet we have but about $1,800,000,000 of currency, and less than one third of this passes as money with our European creditors, and that is locked up and must be bought when needed to pay foreign debts or home debts that are payable by agreement in gold. How can we prosper as a nation when our foreign creditors hold us in such a vice-like grip, and take so much of our earnings to pay the debts we owe them?

Can a railroad which has to earn $1,000,000 to pay a $500,000 debt prosper? But this is precisely what the railroad has to do which borrows money and agrees to pay it back in gold and to pay the interest in gold, and it is precisely what every railroad and other enterprise is doing which borrows money and obligates itself to pay in gold. It obligates itself to pay in a coin that must be *bought*, and can not be earned for it does not receive gold in payment for services rendered, or something furnished. It takes its pay in the ordinary currency of the country which passes from hand to hand and is good for all except the greedy and dictatorial money-lender.

So it has been going on ever since this Government was entrapped into acquiescence in the money system of England, the creditor nation of the world, which has made her wealth, or rather the wealth of her wealthy (for the masses of her people are poor enough) by lending money on her own terms to more needy and less thrifty nations, and when she got them in her debt being shrewd enough to influence them to adopt her monetary system. In that way she has made the nations of the earth tribute-payers to her and this country one of the greatest of tribute-payers.

Opinions may differ as to what may be the best monetary system, but however they may differ as to this, no nation can be permanently prosperous which lets another nation say what its monetary system shall be. We have paid the penalty of that in business adversity and in a foreign indebtedness the proportions of which are amazing, and will increase rather than diminish if the present ruinous monetary system be perpetuated.

MINOR MENTION.

The STAR contends that the best use to which State convicts can be put is in making new and improving the old highways, a fact that no State has yet, as far as we know, caught onto, although there has been a good deal of talk on that line in a number of our State Legislatures. Under the law in this State counties complying with the conditions which wish to avail themselves of the privilege, can work their short-time convicts on the county roads. Several counties have taken advantage of this, among them Mecklenburg, Wake and Forsyth, in each of which the roads have been very much improved. Wake county employs about thirty-five hands, under the superintendence of Mr. W. C. McMackin, supervisor of county roands. In speaking of the advantage to the farmer and others, but especially to the farmer, with a representative of the Raleigh *Press and Visitor* he calls attention to some of the practical benefits derived from good roads. Referring to railroad freights he shows that it costs the farmer more to haul his produce to the railroad stations, an average distance, say, of twelve miles, than it does to carry the same amount of freight four hundred miles by rail, and yet much fault is found with the railroads for what is considered by some the high charges for transportation. With good hard roads he maintains that the transportation to the stations which over bad roads costs the farmer thirty cents a ton could with good roads be done with one fourth of that, without taking into consideration the lightening of work on men and draft animals and the wear and tear on wagons. There are other advantages, reaped both by country and town, to which Mr. McMackin calls attention, and others to which he does not allude, one of which is the enhanced value given to land along these roads. He shows also that with the labor-saving machinery now available, the cost of macadamizing roads has been reduced from $6,000 and $10,000 to $1,000 a mile, and where convict labor is employed to $750. With this showing of cost, there is no good reason why any county which can command convict labor, or any State, should not have good roads.

* *

The Richmond *Dispatch* recently commended the utterance of Col. Richard Malcolm Johnston, when at the Christmas banquet of the New England Society of New York, he said in response to a toast to the South, "The South, I do not say the new South; it is the old South continuing fond of her traditions and ashamed of no part of her history." In commenting upon this the Washington *Post* pays the following clever and truthful tribute to the old South as she was and is:

"The *Post* has always been impatient of this silly gabble about the new South. There is no such thing. The expression is never used save by politicians or notoriety seekers or beardless youths who knew not the thing they speak of as having vanished. It is the same old South, cherishing the same old patriotic traditions, inspired by the same patriotic purpose, loving the country, jealous of its dignity and honor, ready to die or suffer for it always. It is in the South that the language, the ideas, and the practices of the American fathers find their most perfect preservation. It is in the South that anarchy and other foreign teachings of social agitation have received the least encouragement. It is to the South that the country some day will have to look for the protection of our social and political institutions. These people who prate about the "new South" are either talking ignorantly or for their own aggrandizement. The South was the home of conservatism before the war. The South under the changed conditions is the nation's citadel of conservatism still. The South's ideas and aspirations may not please Wall street at times, but should the Union ever be confronted by any genuine peril, either from abroad or from within, there is not a county in any Southern State but will give in her defence more pluck and backbone and devotion than the whole hagging swarm put together, with all its connection thrown in for good measure.

"Believe us, it is the old South still, and the day may come when every civilized citizen of the United States with Anglo-Saxon blood in his veins and the love of enlightened free institutions in his heart will be glad that it has changed in nothing.

* *

According to the Chicago *Railway Age*, there are now in the United States 182,800 miles of railway. For the past ten years the increase of mileage annually has been small compared with some preceding years, the builders evidently moving cautiously and taking few chances. For the present year the road mileage amounts to 1,802 miles, distributed among thirty-eight States and Territories, California leading with 186 miles, Louisiana coming second with 154 miles. Out of the 1,802 miles the Southern States get 550. North Carolina shows up with 40.50 miles. But there were a good many States that had less than this, some very little more, and some none at all. Of course we cannot expect a very large construction now in the country at large to compare with the years of great activity ten years ago and previously, for many of the States have all the railroad facilities for which they can find profitable use. The seats of activity in the future will be in the younger States of the West and in the South, neither of which has as much railway as it needs. The South needs much more, and when the building era begins this will be the section of the greatest activity.

CURRENT COMMENT.

—— A prominent Chicago merchant states that, if he were beginning his career over again, he would make climate a prime factor. He evidently thinks that the young men of the West, seeking success, should go southward.—*Augusta Chronicle, Dem.*

—— Another bank failure yesterday. Fifteen or more banks have failed within a month. Gold fake papers before the election intimidated voters by threatening the prostration of every bank in the United States if Mr. Bryan was elected.—*Indianapolis Sentinel, Dem.*

—— We can always find clews to the coming good times in the optimistic predictions of Henry Clews, who never is, but always to be blessed. This man can find more unsatisfactory conditions in the present hour, and brighter prospects in the future, than any of the other disaster bemoaning rainbow chasers of the times.—*Washington Times, Dem.*

—— So many persons have been poisoned by canned food of late that it is a question whether the use of tin for this purpose should not be prohibited. Among the rest twenty-five cavalrymen at West Point suffered the other day from eating canned head cheese. Could such a thing happen if the goods were packed in glass or stone jars and hermetically sealed?—*Brooklyn Citizen, Dem.*

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

— Charlotte *Observer*: Mr. Daniel Sifford dropped dead Saturday morning in Abernathy's store, at Stanley Creek. He was about 60 years old.

— Lincoln *Democrat*: On Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock Mr. Joseph Jetton was missing from home, and upon inquiry and investigation he was found in his barn dead. He was about 76 years old. He died of heart disease.

— Morganton *Herald*: A Berkshire hog weighing 654 pounds, gross, was killed at the State hospital on the 16th inst. The net weight was 606 pounds. This is the largest porker so far reported to us. Mr. Charles M. Huffman, of Lower Fork township, killed a hog on the 15th inst. which netted 477 pounds at 14 months old

— Oxford *Ledger*: Lemuel Sullivan, a prosperous farmer of Wilson county, had been to town Tuesday and was on his way home when he struck his horse which was very fiery, whereupon she began to furiously kick. Mr. Sullivan was knocked from his vehicle, and lay senseless until found by some neighbors a short time afterwards. He died in a few hours.

— Franklin *Press*: We are told that a very rough looking specimen of humanity has been camping along the range of the Nantahala mountains for several weeks past, ranging from the head of Burningtown to the head waters of Coweta. He has an old frying pan and an ax, and lives on what he can pick up in the way of corn and meat. Nobody knows his name, where he came from, nor what his object is for living wild in the mountains.

— Warrenton *Record*: Mr. Plummer W. Green quietly passed away last Tuesday afternoon, at his residence in Warrenton, surrounded by his devoted daughter, sister and brother and friends. Mr. Green was blind. Has been blind for many years, caused by injuries received in the late civil war, through which he served as gallant a soldier as was in Lee's army. Mr. Green, though totally blind, knew his friends remarkably well by their voices, and he was a most delightful companion.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

Rev. R. C. Beaman, recently appointed by the North Carolina Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South, Presiding Elder of the Wilmington District, has made his appointments for the first round, as follows:

Wilmington, Fifth Street church, January 2, 3.

Wilmington, Grace church, January 9, 10.

Southport, January 16, 17.

Scott's Hill circuit, at Scott's Hill, January 23, 24.

Wilmington, at Market Street, January 31.

Wilmington, Bladen Street (night), January 31.

Burgaw circuit, at Rocky Point, February 6, 7.

Chinsboo circuit, at Keeners, February 13 14.

Jacksonville and Richlands, at Jacksonville, February 20, 21.

Elizabeth circuit, at Elizabethtown, February 27, 28.

Kenansville circuit, at Kenansville, March 6, 7.

Onslow circuit, at Queen's Creek, March 13, 14.

Brunswick circuit, at Concord, March 20, 21.

Columbus circuit, Evergreen, March 27, 28.

Whiteville and Fair Bluff, Whiteville (night), March 28.

Waccamaw circuit, Shiloh, March 30.

Magnolia circuit, Magnolia, April 3, 4.

Bladen circuit, at Bethlehem, April 10, 11.

— Gaffer—Queer never could stand prosperity.

Bland—Why?

Gaffer—Just as soon as he began to make money the police swooped down and arrested him for counterfeiting.—*Phil. North American.*

Why not profit by the experience of others who have found a permanent cure for catarrh in Hood's Sarsaparilla?

TWINKLINGS.

— Dombey—When your wife gets angry won't she speak to you?

Capt. Cuttle—She won't do anything else.—*Tit Bits.*

— His Poignant Grief: What on earth are you howling so hard about, Freddy?"

"Diddy whipped me."

"Well, what if he did? You've been whipped before and the occasion doesn't call for such heartrending grief."

"But he w-w-w-whipped me with a s-s-switch cut from the Christmas tree."—*Truth.*

—Tommie—I've got $8 in my bank.

Mr Freshman—Indeed. Where did you get it all?

Tommie—Every time sister Lil gets a new beau he gives me ten cents to stay out of the parlor.

Now Tommie has got $8.10 in his bank.—*Puck.*

— First Motorman—I believe I will buy a bicycle and learn to ride it.

Second Motorman—Nonsense. You will not be able to run into wagons on a bike.

First Motorman—I know that, but people who are walking will not be able to get out of my way by getting off the track.—*New York World.*

— 'How many men did we kill in that last battle?" asked Weyler.

"You said 8,000," replied his secretary.

The General thought a moment; then he said: "Well, that's a good round round number. Let it go at that!"—*Atlanta Constitution*

— "No, there is one thing, my daughter is not being married for her money. I have made inquiries and find that her intended is not only free from debt, but that he's had excellent expectations."

"What on earth is he marrying her for, then?"—*Judge.*

— Tommie Tompkins—Pa, was Senator Duckworth, who died the other day, a politician or a statesman?

Tompkins—Nobody knows yet, my son; his real estate hasn't been appraised.—*Truth.*

— "I don't see the use of puttin' Mamie in short pants," said Mamie's brother scornfully the third day after she had appeared in her new bloomers.

"Willie!" exclaimed Mamie sharply.

"Well, I don't care," retorted Willie "Now you've got 'em you can't climb a tree an' you know you can't, so what's the use of puttin' up a bluff that you're a boy?'—*Omaha Bee.*

USES OF COLLEGE TRAINING.

Not to Make Experts, but to Fit Men For Large, Intelligent Work.

"It is not entirely safe to claim that every kind of success, even of legitimate success, will be promoted by a college training," writes Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D. D., in The Ladies' Home Journal. "If I had a boy for whom it was my supreme ambition that he should become rich, I should not send him to college. So far from helping his prospects in that direction it would probably damage them. Money making is a trick. The easy acquisition of it is a knack. It involves the condensation of interest and faculty along a particular line, and that a narrow line. There is nothing to hinder a very small man from being a very wealthy one. Shrewdness does not imply a bigmindedness. I might say with a good deal of assurance that it implies the contrary. And shrewdness has more than anything else to do with the acquisition of gain.

"There are a great many things that can be best done by the man who does not know too much, or, at least, by the man whose intelligence is concentrated at a single point or along a single line. The mechanic who has come to be known among us as 'the wizard' would, perhaps, have been more of a man if he had gone to Harvard, but it would probably have spoiled him as a 'wizard.' Genius is presumably always a species of mania, and liable, therefore, to become something very ordinary if successfully subjected to the processes of the asylum. They had better be kept away from college if the design is to make them experts. College will be able to give them a character of 'all roundness,' but a knife cannot be round and sharp at the same time; neither can a boy.

"If we are going to do large, intelligent work, the prime condition is the possession of an intellect trained and stocked in the same general and comprehensive way. College training is simply the process of intellectually getting ready, not getting ready for this, that or the other specific mental service, but simply getting ready — planting down a broad foundation of preliminary big enough to support any breadth or height of superstructure that there may be need or opportunity to put upon it. The college course and the requisite preparatory training cost about seven years of the best and most possible period of a man's life. But if a young man hopes to do a large, solid work in the world, a work in which intelligence of a broad kind is to play any considerable part, and there is no antecedent obstacle in the way, he makes an irreversible mistake if he considers seven years too much to pay for a liberal education."

His Liberal Reward.

The champion mean man up town seems to be a young man who recently advertised in the papers offering a "liberal" reward for the return of a pocketbook containing $80 in cash and some valuable papers. Two young men found the pocketbook in Norristown and called at the loser's house to return it. He handed one of them 50 cents. The finders protested, saying that it had cost them 65 cents to come down from Norristown, and that they hadn't enough money to get home again. The fortunate owner of the pocketbook dismissed them with the remark that he couldn't help that.—Philadelphia Record.

A Hot One.

"Smith got off a bright thing the other day."

"What was it?"

"A lighted cigar some one had carelessly dropped into the chair he sat on."—Detroit Free Press.

Two Good Resolutions

FOR THE NEW YEAR:

1—Never to buy Silver that isn't GORHAM Silver.

2—Never accept what is offered for GORHAM Solid Silver, without *knowing* that it bears the Trade-mark: Lion, Anchor, Letter G.

Too good for Dry Goods Stores—Jewelers only.

LADY DAY OF MARCH.

IMPORTANT IN BOTH SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS CALENDARS.

Why the 25th of March Is Venerated In England—What Happens If It Falls on Easter—Seculariy Considered It Is the Beginning of One of the Year's Quarters.

The 25th of March is an important date both in the secular and religious calendars. It is the first quarter day in the year and as such comes home to most of us who have before our eyes the fear of payment of rent or the rarer pleasure of receiving it. The pay days in England have been arbitrarily fixed on Lady day, Midsummer day, Michaelmas day and Christmas day. Why? Nobody has been able to explain, unless it be that, arriving, as they do, near the end of each quarter, such important days are better as reminders of our duty to our landlord than any ordinary 30th or 31st of the month would be likely to be.

But it is, of course, as one of the great festivals dedicated to the Virgin (as its name, Lady day, or the old term, Our Lady's day, implies) that it has most importance, being the anniversary of the day when the angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin the mystery of the incarnation. Four other dates in the calendar share the honor of this title—namely, Feb. 2, or the Purification; July 2, or the Visitation, to commemorate the visit paid by the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth (instituted by Pope Urban VI in 1383); Sept. 8, or the Nativity, and Dec. 8, or the Conception.

But the 25th of March, or the Annunciation, is most regarded, as it is the anniversary, according to St. Augustine, of the great event to which it owes its origin, and the institution of this festival dates from very early times, since St. Athanasius makes mention of it in one of his sermons. An order of the Patriarch Nicephorus having given permission to break the fast of Lent if the Annunciation happened to fall on the Thursday or Friday of Holy week, a council convened at Toledo in 656 to preserve the complete observance of Lent and ordered the transference of the holiday to the week preceding Christmas. Some of the eastern churches still follow this decree, but the Syrians have fixed it on Dec. 1 and the Armenians on the 5th of January, while in the Latin church it has resumed its old place in the ecclesiastical calendar. In the western church, if it should fall in the Easter fortnight, its celebration is postponed until the second Monday following the festival.

Lady day of March has always been very highly observed in England. The synod of Worcester, 1240 A. D., by one of its canons forbade all servile work upon it, and this was afterward confirmed by various provincial and diocesan councils in all respects except agricultural labor.

In Rome, in the early part of the century, the day used to be celebrated with great pomp and splendor. We read that the windows were hung with crimson and yellow silk draperies and occupied by females in most gorgeous attire, while the churches were patrolled by the pope's horse guards in their splendid full dress uniforms, all of whom wore in their caps a sprig of myrtle as a sign of rejoicing. Before the service a procession appeared, preceded by another detachment of the guards mounted on black chargers, who rode forward to clear the way to the sound of trumpet and the beating of drums. This martial array was followed by a bareheaded priest on a white mule, bearing the host in a gold cup, at the sight of which everybody prostrated himself. The pope used formerly to ride on the white mule himself, and all the cardinals used to follow him in their magnificent robes of state, but as the eminentissimi were for the most part not very eminent horsemen they were generally fastened on lest they should tumble off.

It is not to be supposed that in this country the day would be without its tradition or superstition, so we find that it was considered a public misfortune if Lady day fell on Easter day, and the mediæval couplet runs:

When our Lady falls in our Lord's lap,
Then England beware of great mischap.

No less than 18 saints figure in the calendar on this day. Of these two were ladies—St. Dula and St. Ida; one Irishman, St. Cammin, abbot of Inishcltra, and two Englishmen, St. Alfwolf, bishop of Sherborne, and St. William, the child martyr, of Norwich.

In The Calendar of the Anglican Church we find a statement showing how great in ancient times was the veneration for the Virgin in this country. Published in 1851, the book states that no fewer than 2,190 churches were named in her honor alone, besides 102 where she was associated with some other saint. On the authority of the same work, pictorially the Virgin is nearly always shown kneeling or seated at a table reading.

Of the great masters of all countries and ages whose genius has been lavished on this theme it will be sufficient to mention the brothers Van Eyck, Lochner of Cologne, Albert Duerer, Andrea del Sarto, Vasari, Louis and Annibal Carracci, Guido, Charles de la Fosse, Lesueur and Murillo.

In connection with the day it is permissible, perhaps, to conclude with a "chestnut" that owes its origin to the postoffice. It is said that a few years a go a country gentleman wrote a letter to a lady of rank in town and sent it through the post with the following address: "To the 25th of March, Duke street, London." The postman is said to have delivered it at the house of Lady Day, for whom it was intended.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Where the Bee Works.

Properly considered, a beehive is a wonderful shop, and each individual insect is a curiosity. The inhabitants of a hive are classed as drones, workers and queens. The queen is the mother of every insect in the hive unless she has been installed instead of a queen who had died and left the hive without a mistress. The queen bee is the wonder of the whole insect tribe as far as egg laying is concerned, often depositing 4,000 eggs a day for days in succession during the most productive season. The chief wonder connected with the worker bee is the admirable manner in which his body is shaped and fitted with instruments for honey gathering. These natural instruments consist of cups, combs, brushes, knives, funnels, scrapers, etc., each of which is worthy of a week of careful and painstaking study under a high grade microscope.—Chicago Chronicle.

Maud's Presence of Mind.

Minnie—Did you hear of Maud Edith's wonderful presence of mind?

Mamie—Dear me, no. What was the occasion?

"Why, when her wheel began to run away down hill, she pulled back on the handle bars and screamed 'Whoa!' as loud as she could."—Indianapolis Journal.

The barber's art in Europe dates from the time of Alexander the Great, B. C. 330. He ordered every soldier to shave, lest the beard should give a handle to their enemies.

The birds of the south polar regions migrate north on the approach of winter.

Bank

President Isaac Lewis of Sabina, Ohio, is highly respected all through that section. He has lived in Clinton Co. 75 years, and has been president of the Sabina Bank 20 years. He gladly testifies to the merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and what he says is worthy attention. All brain workers find Hood's Sarsaparilla peculiarly adapted to their needs. It makes pure, rich, red blood, and from this comes nerve, mental, bodily and digestive strength.

"I am glad to say that Hood's Sarsaparilla is a very good medicine, especially as a blood purifier. It has done me good many times. For several years I suffered greatly with pains of

Neuralgia

in one eye and about my temples, especially at night when I had been having a hard day of physical and mental labor. I took many remedies, but found help only in Hood's Sarsaparilla which cured me of rheumatism, neuralgia and headache. Hood's Sarsaparilla has proved itself a true friend. I also take Hood's Pills to keep my bowels regular, and like the pills very much." ISAAC LEWIS, Sabina, Ohio.

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Mr. G. Callouette, Druggist, Beaversville, Ill., says: "To Dr. King's New Discovery I owe my life. Was taken with La Grippe and tried all the physicians for miles about, but of no avail and was given up and told I could not live. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in my store I sent for a bottle and began its use and from the first dose began to get better, and after using three bottles was up and about again. It is worth its weight in gold. We won't keep store or house without it." Get a free trial at R. R. BELLAMY'S Drug Store. †

Wholesale Prices Current.

☞ The following quotations represent Wholesale Prices generally. In making up small orders higher prices have to be charged.

The quotations are always given as accurately as possible, but the STAR will not be responsible for any variations from the actual market price of the articles quoted.

BAGGING—		
2 lb Jute		6
Standard		6¼
WESTERN SMOKED—		
Hams, ₩ lb	12 @	14
Mids, ₩ lb	8 @	9
Shoulders, ₩ lb	8 @	8¼
DRY SALTED—		
Sides, ₩ lb	4½@	4¾
Shoulders, ₩ lb	@	4½
BARRELS—pid s Turpentine—		
Second-hand, each	1 00 @	1 10
New New York, each	1 30 @	1 40
New City, each	@	1 40
BEESWAX ₩ lb	23 @	24
BRICKS—		
Wilmington ₩ M	6 50 @	7 00
Northern	9 00 @	14 00
BUTTER—		
North Carolina ₩ lb	15 @	
N rthern	23 @	
CORN MEAL—		
Per Bushel, in sacks	40 @	47½
Virginia Meal	40 @	42½
COTTON TIES—₩ bundle	@	1 30
CANDLES—₩ lb—		
Sperm	18 @	35
Adamantine	9 @	10
CHEESE ₩ lb—		
Northern Factory	10 @	11
Dairy, Cream	11 @	12
Skims	@	10
COFFEE—₩ lb—		
Laguyra	20 @	
Rio	10 @	16
DOMESTICS—		
Chestnut, ₩ yard	@	5¾
Yarns, ₩ bunch	18 @	20
EGGS—₩ dozen	@	20
FISH—		
Mackerel, No 1, ₩ barrel	22 00 @	27 00
Mackerel, No 1, ₩ half-barrel	11 00 @	13 50
Mackerel, No 2, ₩ barrel	16 00 @	18 00
Mackerel, No 2, ₩ half-barrel	8 00 @	9 00
Mackerel, No 3, ₩ barrel	13 00 @	14 00
Mullets, ₩ barrel	3 00 @	3 50
Mullets, ₩ pork barrel	3 75 @	5 50
N C, Roe Shad, ₩ keg	3 00 @	3 25
Dry Cod, ₩ lb	5 @	10
Extra	3 25 @	3 50
FLOUR—₩ barrel—		
Low grade	3 25 @	3 75
Choice	4 00 @	4 50
Straight	4 75 @	5 00
Fine Patent	5 25 @	5 50
GLUE—₩ lb	7½@	8½
GRAIN—₩ bushel—		
Corn, from store, bags—White	45½@	46
Corn, cargo, in bags—White	40 @	40½
Corn, cargo, in bags—Mixed	39 @	39½
Oats, from store	30 @	35
Oats, Rust Proof	40 @	45
Cow Peas	45 @	50
HIDES, ₩ lb—		
Green	@	6
Dry	@	8
HAY, ₩ 100 lbs—		
Eastern	— @	1 00
Western	@	90
North River	@	85
HOOP IRON, ₩ lb	4 @	5
LARD, ₩ lb—		
Northern	5½@	6½
North Carolina	5 @	1 25
LIME ₩ barrel	@	
LUMBER—(city sawed)—₩ M fee—		
Ship Stuff, resawed	13 00 @	20 00
Rough—dge Plank	13 00 @	18 00
West India cargoes, according to quality	13 00 @	18 00
Dressed Flooring, seasoned	16 00 @	25 00
Scantling and Board, common	14 00 @	15 00
MOLASSES, ₩ gallon—		
New Crop Cuba, in hhds	@	22
in bbls	@	25
Porto Rico, in hhds	25 @	30
in bbls	@	35
Sugar-House, in hhds	13 @	14
in bbls	14 @	15
Syrup, in bbls	13 @	
NAILS, ₩ keg; Cut 60d basis	@	3 15
PORK, ₩ b rrel—		
City Mess	8 75 @	9 00
Rump	@	8 50
Prime	@	8 00
ROPE, ₩ lb	10 @	11
SALT, ₩ sack Alum	@	1 15
Liverpool	@	80
Lisbon	@	80
Amerikoff	@	80
On 100 ₩ Sacks	40 @	45
SHINGLES, 7-inch, ₩ M	3 00 @	3 50
Cypress	3 50 @	4 00
Cypress Saps	2 50 @	3 00
SUGAR, ₩ lb—Standard Granu	@	5½
Standard A	@	5¼
White Ex. C	@	5
Extra C, Golden	4 @	4½
C, Yellow	@	4
SOAP, ₩ lb—Northern	3½@	4
STAVES, ₩ M—W. O. barrel	8 00 @	14 00
R. O. Hogshead	@	10 00
TIMBER, ₩ M feet—Shipping	@	13 00
Mill, Prime	@	11 00
Mill, Fair	@	10 00
Common Mill	6 00 @	8 00
Inferior to Ordinary	@	6 00
TALLOW, ₩ lb	5 @	6
WHISKEY, ₩ gallon—Northern	1 05 @	1 08
North Carolina	1 05 @	1 08

COMMERCIAL.

WILMINGTON MARKET.

STAR OFFICE, December 29.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Market firm at 24½ cents per gallon for machine-made casks, and 25¾ cents for country casks.

ROSIN—Market firm at $1 45 per bbl for Strained and $1 50 for Good Strained.

TAR.—Market quiet at $1 60 per bbl of 280 lbs.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—Dull. Hard 1.40, Yellow Dip 1.90, and Virgin 1.80 per barrel.

Quotations same day last year—Spirits turpentine 28@27½c; rosin, strained, $1 85; good strained $1 40; tar $2 95; crude turpentine 1 10, 1 40, 1 80.

RECEIPTS.

Spirits Turpentine	48
Rosin	719
Tar	191
Crude Turpentine	16

Receipts same day last year—71 casks spirits turpentine, 483 bbls rosin, 119 bbls tar, 48 bbls crude turpentine.

COTTON.

Market quiet on a basis of 6 9 16c for middling. Quotations:

Ordinary	4 8-16 cts	₩ lb
Good Ordinary	5 9-16	" "
Low Middling	6 3-16	" "
Middling	6 9-16	" "
Good Middling	6⅝	" "

Same day last year, middling 7¾c.

Receipts—606 bales; same day last year, 397.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

PEANUTS—North Carolina—Prime, 40@50c per bushel of 28 pounds; Extra Prime, 55c; Fancy, 60@65c. Virginia—Extra Prime, 60@65c; Fancy, 65@70c.

CORN—Firm; 38 to 40 cents per bushel.

ROUGH RICE—65@70 cents per bushel.

N. C. BACON—Steady; Hams, 8 to 11½c per pound; Shoulders, 6 to 7c; Sides, 7 to 8c.

SHINGLES—Per thousand, five inch, hearts and saps, $1.60 to 2.35; six inch, $2.50 to 3.50; seven inch; $3.50 to 5.50.

TIMBER—Market steady at $3.00 to 7.50 per M.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

FINANCIAL.

NEW YORK, December 29—Evening.—Money on call to-day was easy at 2 per cent; last loan at 2 per cent, closing offered at 2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3½@4 per cent. Sterling exchange was weak, with actual business in bankers bills 488½@488 for sixty days and 486¾@486 for demand. Commercial bills 488½@488. Government bonds firmer; United States coupon fours 111½; United States twos 95½; State bonds dull; North Carolina fours 103; North Carolina sixes 123. Railroad bonds higher.

Silver at the Stock Exchange to day was neglected.

COMMERCIAL.

NEW YORK, December 29—Evening.—Cotton steady; middling 7 11 16c.

Cotton futures closed firm at quotations, December 6 78 January 6 81, February 6 90, March 6 97 April 7 04, May 7 13, June 7 18, July 7 23, August 7 24, September and October 7 00, November 7 04. Sales 178,900 bales.

Cotton—net receipts 890 bales; gross 14,978 bales; exports to Great Britain — bales; to France — bales; to the Continent 897 bales; forwarded 5,294 bales; sales 1,331 bales; sales to spinners — bales; stock 303,344 bales.

Total to-day—Net receipts 35 011 bales; exports to Great Britain 14,759 bales; to France — bales; to the Continent 18 437 bales; stock 1,344,631 bales.

Total so far this week—Net receipts 97,958 bales; exports to Great Britain 28,128 bales; to France 8,380 bales; to the Continent 34,639 bales.

Total since September 1—Net receipts 4,795,689 bales; exports to Great Britain 1,789,857 bales; exports to France 397,361 bales; exports to the Continent 1,041,189 bales.

Flour—market quiet and unchanged; Southern flour was dull but steady; common to fair extra $3 00@3 55; good to choice $3 55@3 85. Wheat—spot dull and firmer with options; free on board $1 01½; ungraded red 80c@$1 03; options fairly active and firm at 1¼@2¾c advance; No. 2 red December 93½c; January 91½c; March 93¼c; May 89½c. Corn—spot dull and firm; No. 2 29¾@30c at elevator and 30¾@31c afloat; options were dull and firm at ¼@⅝c advance; December 29¾c; January 29¾c May 31½c. Oats—spot dull but firm; options quiet, firm and unchanged. December 22c; January 22½c; May 24½; spot—No. 2, 23½c. No. 2 white 25¼c; mixed Western 23@24c. Lard quiet and firmer; Western steam $4 05; city $3 63½; December $4 05, nominal; refined dull; Continent $4 35. South America $4 65, compound $4 37½@4 50. Pork was steady and quiet; new mess $8 25@8 75. Butter quiet; barely steady; State dairy 10@18c; do. creamery 14@21; Western creamer 14@22c; Elgins 22c. Eggs lower, with liberal supply, State and Pennsylvania 20@23; ice house 16@17c. Western fresh 18@20c; do. per case —; Southern 17@19½c. Cotton seed oil dull but steady; crude 20c; yellow prime 28@28½. Rice firm, in fair demand and unchanged. Molasses quiet and unchanged. Peanuts quiet; fancy hand-picked 3¾@4c. Coffee quiet; 10 points down to 15 up; December $9 60; January $9 70@9 80; March $9 75@9 85; May $9 75@9 85; July $9 85@9 90; September $9 85@10 00; spot Rio firm and quiet; No. 7 $10 12½@10 25. Sugar—raw quiet and steady; fair refining 3 13 16c; refined dull and unchanged.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Cash quotations: Flour was quiet and firm at prices; hard wheat spring patents $4 30@4 50 in wood, soft wheat patents $4 00@4 15, hard wheat bakers' $3 00@3 80 in sacks, soft wheat bakers' $3 00@3 10; winter wheat $4 30@4 50 in wood. Wheat—No. 2 spring 78¾@80¾c; No. 2 red 90¼@93c. Corn—No. 2 28½@28c. Oats—No. 2 17c. Mess pork, $6 65@6 70. Lard, $3 72½@3 75. Short rib sides $3 70@3 90. Dry salted shoulders $4 25@4 50. Short clear sides, $4 19¼. Whiskey $1 18.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Wheat—December	78¾	80¾	78¾	80¾;
May	83¼	83¾	84	83¾
July	77¼	80	77¼	80c.
Corn—December	25¾	29¾

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SWEET MYSTERIES.

Slowly the seeds in the garden are growing—
Glad homilies!
Tides, set in motion by winds briskly blowing,
Pause ere they rise.
The nestling shall rise and aspire to heaven's gate,
And the butterfly, though in a shroud, he must wait
In dim surmise,
For all things shall rise.

Gently kind spring has awakened the flowers—
Sweet mysteries!
Swiftly the grub on the wing, with new powers,
To happiness flies.
Ever with refluent wave and strong motion,
Landward now march the forces of ocean.
Grand anguries!
For all things do rise.

In the world visible lurks the invisible,
Making men wise,
Telling of blessed truths plainly perceptible
To lovelit eyes;
Telling of heaven and the happy tomorrow;
Telling of joy with no vestige of sorrow
And of bright skies,
Where love never dies.
—C. P. Wilson in New York Sun.

HALF A MILLION.

I had been in the dry goods business ten years or more and had drudged all that while, winter and summer, without a holiday, except Christmas and New Year's day and the Fourth of July, when one summer, calculating my profits, I made up my mind that I could afford to enjoy myself for once as other people did—cut the shop outright for a while and spend a week or so in the country. Trade was dull, and I was dull too. So as Dobbins' aunt—Dobbins is my head clerk—had a house at Shadyslope and took a boarder or two and was anxious to fill her unoccupied rooms that summer, I gave my name to Dobbins to fill up the list and ran down there with my trunk and bag about the 1st of July.

I felt that it was an honor to Dobbins' aunt as well as to Dobbins, but I made up my mind to be affable and not to make them more uncomfortable than I could. No matter what your position in life, it is very wrong to put on airs, and I never do it.

"Tell them not to put themselves out on my account," I said to Dobbins, "but to treat me just as they do the other boarders," and Dobbins said he would.

"Puff of Puff & Co.," I said when I met the aunt. "Don't disturb yourself on my account. I am quite simple in my habits."

She said she wouldn't, though I could see it was not every day that the head of a firm came to Shadyslope. They had three or four other people there, a few who taught music and composed some, you know, and an artist and a doctor and a few who wrote novels, but no body of any importance.

When I sat down to the table that night, I put them all at ease at once.

"I distinctly desire it to be understood that I don't want to disturb any one," I said. "Go on just as you have been doing. I want relaxation, and it will amuse me. Simple pleasures are very charming when one is weary with application to more important matters."

Then I bowed. But you can't expect everything of people not up to the mark. Two or three laughed—why I don't know.

It was very pleasant there—particularly pleasant. My landlady had a daughter, quite a charming creature, with eyes like bluebells and a voice like a canary. She used to sing a good deal with the music man. The moment that girl looked at me she appreciated me.

Before the day was over she was desperately in love with me, and when a creature like that gives you her heart, how can you look coldly on her?

Far be it from me to win the affections of an innocent girl, knowing as I do that I have a position in the world and must marry with due consideration of the fact, but knowing what emotions I had awakened in her bosom I felt obliged to be kind to her. We walked together. We rode, we sung. I felt that it was wrong, but my feelings carried me away. I often thought to myself, "If that girl's father had been in the wholesale line and had left her well off, what a bliss would have been mine!" But he was nothing but a lawyer and had scarcely left a penny. Excelsior is my motto. Large retail should always aspire to a connection with wholesale. And Miss Briggs of Briggs & Bonnce smiles very sweetly when she bows to your humble servant.

Alas, who shall control the heart's affections? Evelina's beauty and her devotion touched my soul too deeply. On the 1st of September, when trade was growing brisk, I began to feel that it was better for the peace of both our hearts that I should fly. I should forget the dream in a little while. But she, poor child, I feared that she would never forget me.

"Adieu," I said as I shook hands with her. "Perhaps we shall never meet again."

She turned her face away from me. Her emotions overcame her. And I took the next train for the city.

I entered again into the turmoil of trade. It was brisk. But nothing could make me happy. I accused myself of trifling with the affections of an angel. She loved me, I thought, and I have broken her heart—I who secretly adore her.

I lost my appetite. I grew thin. When I saw fair creatures of her age bending over the counter, my mind flew back to her, lovelier than all. When Mrs. Briggs' daughter smiled upon me, I thought how plain she was and how adorably beautiful was Evelina.

At last—it was in October—my head clerk claimed a holiday. "I shall spend it with my aunt and Evelina," he said. I sighed.

"A beautiful girl," said I.

"Yes," said he, blushing at the compliment to the family, I presume. "The loveliest girl I ever knew, and a lucky one too."

"Lucky?" said I.

"Yes," said he. "In a year from this time she will be a very rich woman. Old grandfather left her everything, come of age or marry, and he was worth $500,000."

"Half a million!" I cried.

My head clerk nodded.

"Visit your aunt and cousin when you will," I said, "and don't return until you feel quite rested. You never mentioned to me before, Dobbins, that your grandfather left $500,000."

"You see it wasn't left to me," he said and went off.

"Half a million! Miss Briggs was not worth that. A wholesale business was the thing to be connected with, of course, but when the heart is touched we are willing to sacrifice all else. I will fly to your side, Evelina," I soliloquized. "I will recompense you for your hours of grief by telling you how I adore you!"

I pictured the scene to myself. I saw her as she confessed her love and fainted in my arms, and that evening I ran down to Shadyslope to offer my heart and hand to Evelina.

I arrived after dark. The house was very quiet, and as I advanced I reflected that my sudden appearance might agitate Evelina too terribly. I must announce myself cautiously. I stole forward on tiptoe to reconnoiter.

Two forms were seated on the porch—a faint gleam of moonlight revealed them to me—a lady with her cheek reposing upon a gentleman's shoulder, his arm about her waist. They were my head clerk, Tom, and his Cousin Evelina. I stood as one petrified. They were talking of me.

"He really thought I was smitten, Tom," said Evelina. "He flirted with me terribly."

"Did he dare"—began Tom. "Didn't he know?"—

"Of course I did not tell him I was engaged to you," said Evelina. "Why, Tom, you couldn't be jealous of such a fellow—a man with no idea beyond his counter."

Then Tom kissed her.

I waited for no more. Fortunately I caught the down train. At 12 o'clock I was in the city. At the depot I met Simpkins about to start for Albany.

"Simpkins," I said, "I've heard you speak of a troublesome nephew you desired to provide for."

"Confound him, yes," said Simpkins. "My head clerk's place is vacant," I said. "Tell him so come to me."

"Thank you," said Simpkins.

I waited for no thanks. I strode away and wrote Dobbins that his services were no longer required.

* * * * * * *

I have been married a year to Miss Briggs, and her father failed five months ago. Simpkins has just been arrested for embezzling sundry sums of money, and yesterday I passed Tom Dobbins and his wife in the street. She is excessively pretty—lovelier than ever—and I feel quite sure, despite all that I overheard, that her heart is still mine in secret. Of course she could not admit it, not knowing I returned the sentiment. But when I remember how much we were together I feel sure it must be so, and that two hearts were broken. Quite a romantic story mine. Don't you think so?—Exchange.

MORGAN AND THE OPERATOR.

The Latter Was Not So Glad to See the General as He Said He Would Be.

The fall of Forts Donelson and Henry compelled General Albert Sydney Johnston to evacuate Kentucky and northern Tennessee. When he retreated from Bowling Green, which had been his headquarters, he left General John H. Morgan, whose audacious enterprise was beginning to attract attention throughout the country, with his brigade of Kentucky and Tennessee horseman in Kentucky to obtain information of the enemy's movements.

One bright spring morning a tall, graceful looking man rode up to the Louisville and Nashville railroad depot at Bowling Green. Leaving his thoroughbred in charge of a little darkey, the horseman strode across the platform to the telegraph office. He was dressed in an ordinary riding suit, a slouch hat and high riding boots, but there was a martial air about him that would have aroused the suspicion of any one who had ever had anything to do with soldiers. His manner was charmingly affable, and he was soon engaged in conversation with the operator, a sallow little fellow with a thin, blond mustache.

"What's the news?" he asked.

"Nothing much. Hear that scoundrel Morgan is in the neighborhood cutting telegraph wires and playing hell with our communications. Wish I could run across him. He wouldn't cut any more telegraph wires."

The operator jumped up, and, seizing a horse pistol that lay on the table before him, began to strut up and down the room shaking the weapon at an imaginary Morgan.

The horseman eyed him smilingly for a moment, and then, reaching into his inside pocket, he drew forth a card case, and, taking out a card, handed it to the operator. The operator glanced at the card and suddenly stopped. His eyes bulged, and his knees smote together. Without a word he dropped the pistol and card and fled from the depot.

The horseman quietly mounted his horse and galloped off. The card lay on the operator's table near the pistol for an hour. It bore this inscription, "John H. Morgan, C. S. A."—New York Sun.

THE BLUEFISH BRIGADE.

What Happens When the Blues Make a Charge Upon the Menhaden.

"When menhaden or herring are driven upon the beach by bluefish, as they often are, so that they can be carried off by the cartload," said a fisherman, "there is very seldom found among them one of their pursuers, and if one is found it is likely to be a fish that is diseased or that has been hurt in some way. The bluefish follows to the very verge of the water, but there it stops, and it is so powerful and alert a swimmer that, close as it is, it still easily keeps clear of the land. The menhaden or herring are no mean swimmers. They could come as close and keep off the shore as easily as the bluefish do, but not when the bluefish are after them. Then they are like men pursued to the edge of a precipice. It is almost certain death to jump, but they must do that or turn and take the chances of breaking through the pursuing line.

"When the bluefish—there may be 3,000 or 4,000 of them together—sight a school of menhaden, they go for it like a brigade of heavy cavalry, cutting and slashing, snapping and biting, right and left. The menhaden are simply overborne by superior weight, and there is nothing for them to do but flee. If they are driven toward the shore, the land is to them what the precipice would be to the man. They must take it or they must turn and try to fight their way through. Many do turn and try to swim under or over or around the savage bluefish, and some escape in this way, and some are snapped up, and some are maimed and then cast ashore, and many of them, crowding together, are so closely pressed that they are practically forced ashore.

"Sometimes fish that are not cast up very far flop down into the water again. A high wave may set some free. A fish thus liberated may find its fins so damaged that it can't swim, and it is cast up again. Weakened by its rough experience, it may fall a prey to some of the bluefish yet lingering off shore. It may escape."—New York Sun.

THE RABBIT SCOURGE

HOW THE AUSTRALIANS TRY TO DEAL WITH THIS PEST.

Fences Made of Netting Over 400 Miles Long—Enormous Cost of Fighting the Plague—Millions Have Been Slaughtered but Numbers Continue to Increase.

Then the New South Wales government, it will be remembered, offered a reward of £25,000 to any person or persons who could suggest a really efficient method of getting rid of the pest; but, although this liberal offer led to the receipt of no fewer than 2,000 schemes from all parts of the world, none of them was regarded as satisfactory, and the offer was withdrawn. The domestic cat was introduced, and in certain limited areas did much service. Poisons were largely resorted to, and ferrets, stoats and weasels have been imported in thousands into some of the colonies and have increased fast. But hitherto the rabbits, owing to the rate at which they multiply, have managed not only to hold their own, but to constantly spread over new ground, carrying destruction with them wherever they go.

In South Australia, for instance, the direct loss from the rabbits has been put down at £250,000 per annum and the indirect loss at a similar amount. In Victoria the active operations for the destruction of rabbits on crown lands have been carried on by the government since 1880, and from that date to the middle of 1894 a total of nearly £800,000 had been spent by the state on that object. As for the money spent by private individuals for the same purpose, that is almost incalculable, but it may be mentioned that on one estate alone upward of £15,000 have been expended by the owner, with the view of clearing his land of the pest.

In the 17 years ending with 1893 nearly 68,000,000 rabbit skins, valued at £409,000, were exported from Victoria, without counting the large quantities used by hat manufacturers in the colony, one establishment alone using 374,400 every year. Yet, notwithstanding all this slaughter, the present infested area throughout the colony is estimated by the chief inspector at no less than 37,750,000 acres. Adding to the direct expenditure the depreciations of the grazing values of the land, the loss to the colonies concerned amount to millions of pounds sterling.

The final outcome of royal commissions, of international conferences and of the testing of every practical method of extermination, is that the most effectual method of dealing with the evil is found to be the construction of rabbit proof netting, by means of which the animals can be kept from areas not yet infested, can be shut off from food supplies, and can be more effectually dealt with locally.

The length of some of these fences is enormous. There is one starting at Barringun, on the Queensland border, and following the main trunk line from Bourke to Ccrcwa, a distance of 407 miles, and there is another along the entire western boundary of New South Wales, a distance of 846 miles. The Queensland government, too, has erected a similar fence along a considerable portion of the northern boundary of New South Wales, but the surveyor general of Queensland, in the report already referred to, says that "the rabbits must have come through the fence in mobs and droves of innumerable multitudes at some time," and thus have established themselves in Queensland as well.

This, of course, is the weak point in regard to fences, which are liable to break down in places, more especially in times of flood and where they cross over creeks, while the keeping of constant supervision over the fences, so that immediate repairs can be done where openings appear, is quite impracticable where the distances are so great. In many instances countless thousands of rabbits have been seen on one side of a fence dead or dying of starvation after eating all the available food supplies and leaping up at the fence in their attempts to surmount it. One can imagine how they would rush through in the event of any opening appearing and how a single break in the fence might be the doom of a country not previously infested.

There have been many projects for the commercial utilization of the animals by sending them over here in order to contribute both to our food supplies and to the cost of their own destruction, but hitherto the enterprise has not been very profitable, while some of the most competent authorities in the colonies think that if it should be followed up the result may be to conserve the rabbits instead of getting rid of them. On the other hand, too, the shipping of some hundreds of thousands, or even a million or two, of rabbits to Great Britain every year would not be likely to make any appreciable difference on the numbers left behind to constitute what it is feared must be regarded as a pest now altogether ineradicable.—London Times.

How soft the music of those village bells, falling at intervals upon the ear in cadence sweet! now dying all away, now pealing loud again and louder still, clear and sonorous it opens all the cells where memory slept.—Cowper.

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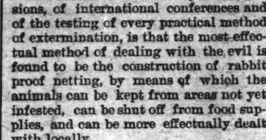

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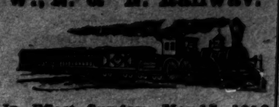

In Effect Sunday, May 17, 1896

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.

NORTH BOUND	STATIONS.	SOUTH BOUND
No. 78		No. 77
A M / P M	—WILMINGTON—	P M / P M
9 00	Lv...Meltnery street...Ar	12 40
7 00 / 9 10	Lv...Barry street...Ar	12 30 / 3 35
7 05	Ar...Jacksonville...Lv	12 25
11 05 / 6 25	Lv " Ar	10 05 / 10 25
11 05 / 6 30	Lv...Maysville...Lv	10 00 / 10 20
12 30 / 4 44	Lv...Pollocksville...Lv	9 35 / 8 50
1 30 / 5 3	Ar...Newbern...Lv	9 30 / 8 40
		A m

Nos. 5 and 6 mixed trains.
Nos. 7 and 8 passenger trains.
Trains 5 and 7 p m make connection with trains on A. & N. C. R. R. for Morehead City and Beaufort.
Connection with Steamer Neuse at Newbern to and from Elizabeth City and Norfolk Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Steamer Geo D. Purdy makes daily trips between Jacksonville and New River points.
*Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
†Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
‡Daily except Sunday.

H. A. WHITING,
General Manager.
J. W. MARTENIS,
Traffic Manager. my 22 tf

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

SCHEDULE IN EFFECT DEC. 13, 1896.

DEPARTURE FROM WILMINGTON—NORTHBOUND.

DAILY No. 48—Passenger—Due Magnolia 10.50 a m, Warsaw 11.11 a m, Goldsboro 12.01 a m, Wilson 12.48 p m, Rocky Mount 1.30 p m, Tarboro 2.50 p m, Weldon 3.39 p m, Petersburg 5.32 p m, Richmond 6.40 p m. Norfolk 8.05 p m, Washington 11.10 p m Baltimore 12.50 p m, Philadelphia 3.45 a m, New York 6.52 a m, †Boston 5.30 p m

DAILY 7.15 P M No. 40—Passenger—Due Magnolia 8.55 p m, Warsaw 9.10 p m, Goldsboro 10.10 p m, Wilson 11.16 p m, †Tarboro 6.45 a m, Rocky Mount 11.05 p m, Weldon 1.44 a m, †—orfolk 10.30 a m, Petersburg 2.32 m, Richmond 4.30 a m, Washington 7.41 a m, Baltimore 9.05 a m, Philadelphia 11.35 a m, New York 3.03 p m, Boston 6.30 p m.

SOUTHBOUND:

DAILY 3.35 P M No. 35—Passenger—Due Lake Waccamaw 4.32 p m, Chadbourn 5.14 p m, Marion 6.05 p m, Florence 6.45 p m, Sumter 8.27 p m, Columbia 9.55 p m, Denmark 6.30 a m, Augusta 8.00 a m, Macon 11.00 a m, Atlanta 12.15 p m. Charleston 10.20 p m, Savannah 12.50 a m. Jacksonville 7.00 a m. St. Augustine 10.30 a m, Tampa 4.35 p m.

DAILY 5.45 P M ARRIVALS AT WILMINGTON—FROM THE NORTH.

No. 49—Passenger—Leave †Boston 1.03 p m, New York 9.00 p m, Philadelphia 12.05 a m, Baltimore 2.50 a m, Washington 4.30 a m, Richmond 9.05 a m, Petersburg 10.00 a m, Norfolk 8.40 a m, Weldon 11.50 a m, Tarboro 12.13 p m, Rocky Mount 1.46 p m, Wilson 2.12 p m, Goldsboro 3.10 p m, Warsaw 4.08 p m, Magnolia 4.16 p m.

DAILY 9.30 a m No. 41—Passenger—Leave Boston 12.00 a m, New York 3.30 a m, Philadelphia 12.00 p m, Baltimore 5.25 p m, Washington 8.46 p m, Richmond 7.20 p m, Petersburg 8.12 p m, †Norfolk 7.20 p m, Weldon 9.44 p m, †Tarboro 6.05 p m, Rock Mount 5.40 a m, leave Wilson 6.15 a m, Goldsboro 7.00 a m, Warsaw 7.51 a m, Magnolia 8.03 a m.

FROM THE SOUTH.

DAILY 12.15 p m No. 54—Passenger—Leave Tampa 7.40 a m, Sanford 1.45 p m, Jacksonville 7.10 p m Savannah 12.10 night, Charleston 5.30 a m, Columbia 8.50 a m, Atlanta 7.15 a m, Macon 9.00 a m, Augusta 2.25 p m, Denmark 4.37 p m, Sumter 7.13 a m,, Florence 8.55 a m, Marion 9.34 a m, Chadbourn 10.35 a m, Lake Waccamaw 11.06 a m.

†Daily except Sunday.

Trains on Scotland Neck Branch Road leave Weldon 4.10 p m, Halifax 4.58 p m, arrive Scotland Neck 5.30 p m, Greenville 6.57 p m, Kinston 7 55 p m. Returning, leaves Kinston 7 30 a m, Greenville 8.30 a m Arriving Halifax at 11 00a m, Weldon 11.30 a m, daily except Sunday.

Trains on Washington Branch leave Washington 8.00 a m and 2 00 p m, arrive Parmele 8.50 a m and 3.40 p m; returning leaves Parmele 9 5? a m and 6 30 p m, arrives Washington 11 35 a m and 7.20 p m. Daily except Sunday.

Train leaves Tarboro, N. C., daily at 5.30 p m, arrives Plymouth 7.40 p m, Returning, leave Plymouth daily at 7.3? a m., Arrive Tarboro 9.20 a m.

Train on Midland N C Branch leaves Goldsboro, N. C., daily except Sunday, 7 10 a m; arrive Smithfield N. C., 8.3? a m. Returning, leaves Smithfield 9 00 a m, arrive Goldsboro, N. C., 10 35 a m.

Train on Nashville Branch leaves Rocky Mount at 4.30 p m, arrives Nashville 5.05 p m, Spring Hope 5.? p m. Returning leaves Spring Hope 8 a m, Nashville 8.35 a m; arrive Rocky Mount 9 05 a m, daily except Sunday.

Train on Clinton Branch leave Warsaw for Clinton Daily except Sunday at 11.30 a m and 9 15 p m; returning leave Clinton at 7.00 a m. and 3.00 p m.

Florence Railroad leave Pee Dee 9 10 a m, arrive Latta 9.35 a m, Dillon 9 49 a m, Rowland 10 0? a m, returning leave Rowland 3 38 p m, arrives Dillon 5.56 p m, Latta 6.09 p m, Pee Dee 6.3? p m, daily.

Trains on Conway Branch leave Hub at 6.30 a m, Chadbourn 10.40 a m, arrive Conway 1.0 p m. leave Conway 2 25 p m, Chadbourn 5.50 p m, arrive Hub 6.00 p m, Daily except Sunday.

Trains on Cheraw and Darlington Railroad leave Florence 8 05 a m, 9 40 a m and 8 00 p m, arrive Darlington 9 05 a m, 10 30 a m and 8 50 p m, leave Darlington 9 30 a m and 10 40 a m, arrive Cheraw 10 40 a m and 11 50 p m, leave Cheraw 12 45 p m, arrive Wadesboro 3 35 p m, Return leave Wadesboro 5 p m, arrive Cheraw 4 p m, leave Cheraw 4 45 p m and 5 35 p m arrive Darlington 7.1 p m and 6 05 p m leave Darlington 7 15 p m, 6 37 and 7 05 p m, arrive Florence 8.40 p m, 8 05 p m and 9 15 a m. Daily except Sunday. Sunday trains leave Floyds 7 30 a m, Darlington 8? a m, arrive Florence 8 10 a m. Returning, leave Flo. e. 9 a m, Darlington 9.30 a m, arrive Floyds 9 40 a m. Trains leave Gibson 6 10 a m, Bennettsville 6 41 a m, arrive Darlington 7.40 a m, Sumter 9 35 a m. Returning, leave Sumter 6 45 p m Darlington 8 35 p m, arrive Bennettsville 9 26 p m. Gibson 9 5? p m.

Central of South Carolina Railroad leave Sumter 6 37 p m, Manning 6.5? p m, arrive Lane's 7 37 p m. leave Lanes 8.?8 a m, Manning 9.05 a m, arrive Sumter 9.30 a m. Daily.

Georgetown and Western Railroad leave Lanes 9.36 a m, 4 10 p m, arrive Georgetown 12 m, 5.30 p m, leave Georgetown 1 p m, 6 p m, arrive Lanes 3.35 a m, 8.30 p m. Daily except Sunday.

Wilson and Fayetteville Branch leave Wilson 3.05 p m, 11.10 p m, arrive Selma 3.50 p m Smithfield 5.55 p m, Dunn 6.30 p m, Fayetteville 4.15 p m. 1.07 a m. Returning leave Fayetteville 10 00 a m, Dunn 10.? a m, Smithfield 12.45 p m, Selma 1.00 p m, arrive Wilson 1.40 p m, 12.10 p m.

Manchester & Augusta Railroad train leaves Sumter 4 45 a m, Creston 5 3 a m, arrive Denmark 8 20 a m. Returning leave Denmark 4 37 p m, Creston 6 30 p m, Sumter 6 30 p m Daily.

Pregnalls Branch train leaves Creston 5 45 a m, arrive Pregnalls 9 15 a m Returning leaves Pregnalls 10 p m; arrives Creston 2 30 p m. Daily except Sunday.

Bonneville Branch trains leave Elliott 11 10 a m and 7.35 p m, arrive Lachnow 1 p m and 8.30 p m, Returning leave Lachnow 6 05 a m and 3.00 p m, arrive Elliott 8 30 a m and 5.30 p m.

†Daily except Sunday. ‡Sunday only.

H. M. EMERSON,
Gen'l Passenger Agent.

J. R. KENLY, Gen'l Manager.
T. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager. dec 15 tf

Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad

Time Table.

In Effect Wednesday, May 27th, 1896.

GOING EAST.		STATIONS.	GOING WEST.	
9 Passenger Daily Ex Sunday.			4 Passenger Daily Ex Sunday.	
Arrive	Leave		Arrive	Leave
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	A. M.
.....	3 30	Goldsboro	11 20	.....
4 10	4 12	Kinston	10 32	10 34
5 25	5 35	Newbern	9 17	9 30
6 37	6 42	Morehead City	8 01	8 07
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	A. M.

Train 4 connects with W. & W train bound North, leaving Goldsboro at 11.35 a m, and with Southern

The Morning Star.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

WEDNESDAY MORNING DEC. 30, 1896

HAVANA ADVICES.

Fifteen Defenseless Cubans Brutally Massacred by Spaniards—Insurgent Prisoners Tried by Court-Martial.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—It is officially stated to-day that a Spanish column has had an engagement with rebel parties under Sotolongo on the Sotolongo ranch, near Jagey Grande, province of Matanzas. The insurgents are alleged to have been completely dispersed with the loss of fifteen killed and one wounded. The Spaniards had a corporal wounded.

It is known that this "engagement" was simply an attack made by the troops upon the defenceless pacificos on the ranch and that the fifteen persons reported to have been killed in battle were brutally massacred.

Claudio Perez Medell and Jose Peres Garcia have been tried by a court-martial sitting in Morro Castle. They were charged with the crime of rebellion. Their sentences have not been announced, but they will undoubtedly be condemned to death. Two French citizens named Bene and Louis Joseph Benandeau have been tried for the same crime by an ordinary court-martial at the same place.

A NOTABLE WEDDING.

Marriage of Louise Eugenie Bonaparte to Count Hulfeldt of Denmark.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—The wedding of Count Adam de Moltke Huitfeldt of Denmark and Miss Louise Eugenie Bonaparte, daughter of the late Col. Jerome Bonaparte, took place this morning in St. Paul's Catholic church. The church was handsomely decorated with flowers and plants, holly and mistletoe being used in abundance with fine effect. The national colors of the United States and Denmark were blended in all the panels. His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, an old friend of the Bonaparte family, performed the ceremony and Father Foley, assistant pastor of the church, celebrated nuptial mass.

Miss Bonaparte is the great-granddaughter of the famous beauty "Betsy" Patterson, of Baltimore, whose marriage to Joseph Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon Bonaparte, was celebrated at Baltimore Christmas eve, 1803, Rev. John Carroll, Bishop of Maryland, officiating.

SPOTS AND FUTURES.

New York Sun's Review of the Cotton Market.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, December 29.—The *Sun* says: Spot cotton here was unchanged; sales 1,881 bales for spinning. Middling uplands 7 1-16c against 8⅛c last year; New Orleans and Gulf 7 5 16c against 8⅝c last year. Liverpool made no response to the break in prices here yesterday; on the contrary, cables from that market reported an advance in futures and a better demand for spot cotton. This news was better than had been expected and prices here advanced quite sharply to day. Liverpool bought freely this morning, the purchases for Liverpool account being estimated at about 20,000 bales. The cheapness of prices attracted considerable outside buying, the receipts at the ports and the interior towns were smaller, shorts covered and the spot market here was more active. In a word the improvements were all of bullish nature and prices advanced and closed firm at the highest figures of the day. Notices for about 4,000 bales were issued, but they quickly stopped.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

May Wheat, Corn and Oats Closed Highest —Pork Produces Lower.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

CHICAGO, December 29.—May wheat opened from 83¼ to 83¾, advanced to 84c, closing at 83⅝@84c. 1⅛@2c over yesterday. Cash wheat was firm and 1½@2c higher.

May corn opened at 25⅜c, advanced to 25⅝c, where it closed, ½c over yesterday. Cash corn was steady.

May oats closed ½c higher yesterday. Cash oats were weak and ¼@⅜c per bushel lower.

A drop of from 5 to 10c in the price of hogs had a weakening effect on product. The opening and early trading was at larger figures that yesterday's close, and no improvement occurred during the session. May pork closed 4@7½c lower. May lard 3½@5c lower and May ribs 5c lower.

FIREMEN INJURED.

Caught in a Back Draught and Enveloped in Flames.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Foreman John W. Halen, Assistant Foreman Diviney and Firemen Cornelius and William Shaw, all members of Engine Company 30, were seriously burned while at work at a fire in a frame building, corner of Varick and West Houston streets, today. The men were going up the stairway of the building, when they were caught in a back draught and instantly enveloped in flames. They were rescued by their comrades and removed to the hospital. The damage caused by the fire was slight.

SMALL POX AND CHOLERA

Epidemic at Japanese and Chinese Ports.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 29.—The steamer Peru brings news that in addition to the small pox epidemic at Japanese ports cholera has revived in Hong Kong and though there are not yet many deaths, the plague is increasing and serious results are expected. The disease has made much headway in many Chinese cities and on the island of Formosa. Japanese ports have declared a quarantine against all cholera infected districts.

NAVAL STORES MARKETS.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, December 29.—Rosin quiet; strained common to good $1 75. Spirits turpentine steady at 30½@31½c.

CHARLESTON, December 29.—Spirits turpentine firm at 24½c; sales — casks. Rosin firm; sales — barrels: A, B, C, D, E, F $1 40, G $1 45, H $1 50, I, $1 65, K $1 70, M $1 80, N $2 00, W G $2 20, W W $2 50.

SAVANNAH, December 29.—Spirits turpentine firm at 24½c; sales 2,000 casks; receipts 998. Rosin firm; sales 7,000 barrels; receipts 4,884; A, B, C, D, E, F, G $1 45, H $1 65, I $1 75, K $1 85, M $1 90, N $2 00, W G $2 25, W W $2 75.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

TARIFF HEARINGS

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

Mississippi Valley Planters Ask Protection Against Egyptian Cotton—New England Manufacturers Want Tariff on Thread and Yarns Increased.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—The second day of the tariff hearings before the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives opened with the discussion of "Schedule 1, cotton manufactures."

There were six members of the committee present when, promptly at 10 a. m., the proceedings opened. These were the chairman (Mr. Dingley, of Maine), and Messrs. Payne, of New York; Evans, of Kentucky, and Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, all Republicans, and Messrs. McMillin, of Tennessee, and Wheeler, of Alabama, Democrats.

The first section of the schedule relates to the duty on cotton thread and carded yarns and on warps of warp yarn. The gentlemen that were present to enlighten the committee in regard to those manufactures were Messrs. Andrew B. Sanford, R. C. Kerr, and W. D. Howland, representing the Cotton Spinners' Association, of Fall River, Mass., and Messrs. J. A. Campbell, J. C. Young and P. J. McNally, of Manayunk, Pa. Mr Sanford stated the views of the Cotton Spinners' Association, and was subjected to close questioning on the part of the two Democratic members. Mr. Sanford said that the provisos in the present tariff bill had practically made it an ad valorem measure. It was simply impossible for the spinners of this country to put out any fine yarns. As far as these yarns went, the bill was inoperative and the mills had been compelled to stop the making of fine yarns and try the making of coarse goods, for which their machinery was not adapted. Under the present bill fine yarns imported were undervalued. The manufacturer was injured and the Government was deprived of much revenue. The Cotton Spinners' Association would be willing to have the present rates on cotton yarns remain if the provisos in the law regarding them were stricken out. The importation of these yarns has increased from some 700,000 pounds in 1894 to over 2,000,000 pounds this year.

The paragraph in the present law complained of provides that in no case shall the duty levied exceed eight cents per pound on yarns valued at not exceeding 25 cents per pound, nor exceeding 15 cents per pound on yarns valued at over 25 cents per pound and not exceeding forty cents per pound. Provided, further, that on all yarns valued at more than forty cents per pound there shall be levied, collected and paid a duty of forty-five cents ad valorem.

W. R Craig, of Mississippi, on behalf of producers of "extra staple" cotton of the Mississippi valley, asked for protection against Egyptian cotton. This cotton, he said, came into direct competition with the domestic product and to a large extent has driven the domestic growers out. In some way, he asserted, the foreigners managed to undersell the domestic producers just enough to get their goods in. The domestic cotton is used in the finer grades of goods and was one of the industries which could be protected without damage to any one. It was a growing industry and a moderate protection was asked for it He thought three cents per pound would suffice. An ad valorem duty would be worthless. A large percentage of the mills now being erected were for the purpose of spinning this fine cotton, and if fostered the industry had a bright future. The question of labor entered largely into the question—that in Egypt being of the pauper class. Our cotton would do the work as good, if not better, than the Egyptian article and would be of great benefit to the farmers of the South.

C. P. Baker, treasurer of the Lawrence Manufacturing Company, said that the Egyptian cotton was used in preference to the American product as there was less waste in working it. The two cottons could not always be used for the same purposes. The American article could not entirely take the place of the Egyptian product.

Mr. Wheeler asked if the South would not be selling its birthright for a mess of pottage to ask for this. Mr. Baker said that he would not like to say.

Mr. Wheeler was asked what this birthright was. He replied: "Free trade and free institutions."

Representatives of manufacturers of embroideries, laces, silk, buttons and hosiery desired increased tariff rates at least to an extent sufficient to pay for running the machinery.

AUTONOMY FOR CUBA.

The Spanish Ministry Promise Cubans a Larger Measure of Home Rule Than Heretofore Enjoyed.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—While it is not true that the Spanish Government will accept the mediation of the United States in giving autonomy to the island of Cuba, it has been known for some weeks that the Spanish ministry propose giving the Cubans a larger measure of home rule than they have heretofore enjoyed. President Cleveland has been repeatedly advised that these reforms will be inaugurated when the province of Pinar del Rio has been pacified. It was in this province that Gen. Maceo and his followers have been located for the past year and since Maceo's death the work of pacification has been considerably expedited. The time is now believed to be ripe when the home rule reforms will be instituted there and also in the provinces of Matanzas and Havana, where the insurgents have never secured a foothold.

It has been frequently asserted by Spain that the intended reforms would have been put in operation long ago but for the insurrection, and that some of the leaders among the insurgents started the rebellion in order to prevent the reforms. These reforms embrace the election of an entire Cuban Congress, instead of a mixed Congress of fifteen elected members and fifteen appointed by the regent, and also a complete control by Cuba of her tariff.

The Spanish ministry are now understood to be engaged in drafting the proposed reforms, but thus far the only knowledge respecting them is of a general nature. It is believed that they will be completed within the next fortnight, and it is not unlikely that a copy will be cabled to Secretary Olney by the permission of the Spanish Government before their public announcement.

MADRID, December 29.—An emphatic semi-official denial is given to the statements cabled here as coming from Washington, that Secretary of State Olney and Senator Dupuy de Lome has practically terminated their negotiations on the Cuban question and detailing the extent of the reforms that Spain would grant Cuba under the guarantee of the United States.

Waller was ahead in the bicycle international contest in Washington, D. C., at the close of the second day last evening, with 991 miles and two laps to his credit.

The Modern Mother

Has found that her little ones are improved more by the pleasant Syrup of Figs, when in need of the laxative effect of a gentle remedy, than by any other, and that it is more acceptable to them. Children enjoy it and it benefits them. The true remedy, Syrup of Figs, is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company only.

MORE BANK FAILURES.

In Minnesota, Maine, Michigan and Virginia.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

ROANOKE, VA., December 29.—The Commercial National Bank closed its doors this morning. The failure was caused by a run on the bank yesterday. Cashier Davenport resigned on the 90th instant and turned over the books in good shape to his successor, and returned to his old home in Charleston, W. Va. This fact did not become known until yesterday, and is said to be the cause of the run. Deposits are slightly over $50,000, and it is believed that all liabilities will be paid in full. Bank Examiner Sands is en route to this place to take charge. No other bank is in the least affected.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., December 29.—The Columbia National Bank, of this city, closed its doors this morning owing to inability to make collections. It is a comparatively new bank, having been organized about five years ago with ex-State Treasurer Charles Kittleson as its president and ex-State Treasurer Bobleter as cashier, which positions they still hold. Its capital on December 18th was $200,000, with a surplus of about $6,000. Its loans and discounts were $348,000 and its deposits $264,000. It has never been profitable. Deputy Comptroller of the Currency Geo. W. Coffin, who happened to be in the city, took charge of the bank. Its officers claim that they will be able to pay depositors in full.

The Washington Bank of this city has closed its doors. Its last statement, December 17, shows loans and discounts of $500,000 and deposits of $540,000. Its capital is $100,000 and its surplus $18,000. A. C. Haugan, its president, is city treasurer and it is likely that quite an amount of city funds will be locked up by the failure. Its business is largely with working people. The officers claim that they will be able to pay them in full.

AUBURN, ME., December 29.—A petition for a receiver for the American Trust & Banking Company has been filed. A director says: "The money is coming in in such amounts that we are encouraged to think our doors can again be opened for business. The company has little borrowed money and the directors believe that Western investments will prove all right."

RICHMOND, VA., December 29.—A special to the *Dispatch* says: The Commercial National Bank of this city closed its doors this morning because of a run on that institution yesterday. This run, it is believed, was caused by the resignation of Cashier Davenport and his departure for West Virginia on Sunday. Mr. Davenport had been in the employ of the bank for some years, and his books on settlement were correct in every particular. When it was known that he had resigned people became uneasy and the run followed. The total liabilities of the bank amount to about $80,000 and the estimated assets exceed this by about $90,000.

SIOUX CITY, IA., December 29.—On application of W. T. Honsinger, vice president and a large share-holder in the Farmers' Trust Company, of this place, G. H. Hollister was to-day appointed receiver for the institution. Tightness of the money market rendered it impossible for the company to meet its debentures when the makers of notes on which they were secured defaulted payments. Receiver Hollister estimates assets at $388,000, and liabilities $135,000.

PRINCESS CARAMAN-CHIMAY.

Her Arrival at Budapest with Her Paramour Created a Sensation.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

BUDAPEST, December 29.—Janos Rigo, the Hungarian Gypsy musician, and the Princess de Caraman-Chimay, formerly Miss Clara Ward, of Detroit, who recently eloped from Paris, have arrived here. Their presence in the city has awakened the liveliest curiosity and people of all classes made all sorts of efforts to see the couple. When it became noised about that Rigo and his American mistress were sleeping at a hotel, hundreds of persons went there and stood outside for hours, hoping to see the pair. The Princess and her paramour have visited the theatres since their arrival, and appear to enjoy the notoriety they have obtained through their liason.

The contrast between the two is great. Rigo, who is about thirty-five years of age, looks like the ordinary Gypsy he is. His complexion is swarthy and his common ancestry is plainly attested in his face. The respectable people of the city are thoroughly disgusted with the manner in which the couple are acting and say that ordinary decency should impel them to keep themselves from the public gaze, but this view of the matter does not seem to meet with the approval of the parties most interested. Many men of the world scoff at the idea of Rigo divorcing his wife and marrying the Princess. They say that after he gets as much money as possible from her he will abandon her and return to his wife.

ALONE WITH HER DEAD.

Deplorable Condition of an Aged and Helpless Woman in the Wilds of New Jersey.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

EGG HARBOR CITY, N. J., December 29.—John Sproerl, 70 years old, operated a small farm and lived with his aged and helpless wife in a little house in the dense woods near Pomona. Yesterday afternoon a wood-chopper was passing the lonely farm when he saw a handkerchief flattering in a curious way from one of the windows. He stopped to investigate and found that Mrs. Sproerl, unable to leave the house, had managed to crawl to a window. There she had kept up an unceasing cry hour after hour for some one. Her husband had died last Friday, and the helpless woman had been alone with her dead those four days. The woman was almost starved to death, while the house was in a deplorable condition. In the little barn were a horse and cow turned loose, and so weak from hunger that they could hardly stand.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE

Will Begin the Tenth Season of Their New York and Florida Special January 18th.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—Commencing January 18th next the Atlantic Coast Line will begin the tenth season of their New York and Florida special, a solid train between Eastern cities and Florida. It will leave New York daily, except Sunday, at 4 30 p. m. arriving in Charleston at 11 50 a. m.; Savannah at 2 06 p. m., Jacksonville at 6.30 p. m., St. Augustine at 7.45 p. m.

Mr. Gladstone celebrated his 87th birthday at Hawarden yesterday surrounded by his family. There was the usual demonstration by the villagers in honor of the occasion, consisting of the ringing of church bells and the assignment of deputations to proceed to the castle and congratulate the venerable statesman.

RHEUMATISM IS A FOE which gives no quarter. It torments its victims day and night. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood and cures the aches and pains of rheumatism.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best family cathartic and liver medicine. Gentle, reliable, sure.

WARM WIRELETS.

William Bing, a prosperous farmer of Floyd county, Ga., committed suicide yesterday.

Four colored men were drowned in James river near City Point, Va., by their row boat capsizing Monday night.

John Pagan, a wealthy citizen of Yonkers, N. Y., committed suicide yesterday by shooting himself in the head with a revolver.

Isaac Zucker, the convicted firebug, was sentenced in the New York Supreme Court by Justice Farsman to imprisonment for thirty six years.

The Phœnix Woollen Company, of Providence, R. I., has filed its petition of insolvency. Liabilities $300,000. The assets are about $550,000.

The bent works and lumber yard of Bringardner & Conkle, at Junction City, Ohio, were burned yesterday. The loss is estimated at $50,000. Insurance only $16,000.

The health authorities of Bombay report that during the past forty-eight hours there have been 177 new cases of bubonic plague and 180 deaths from that disease.

The safe in a branch office of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York city, was blown open by burglars Monday night and $1,500 and a gold watch stolen.

The condition of Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, who fell and fractured her hip at Stamford, Conn., a few days ago, remains critical. Her recovery is considered doubtful.

The London *Daily News* says it is quite clear that Spain is carrying on negotiations with the United States, although her pride compels her to do so in an underhand manner.

A special from Acworth, Ga., says that two Western & Atlantic freight trains collided there last night. The engines and cars were broken up, but no one was seriously injured.

The President has amended the Civil Service rules so as to include in this service all employes of the Government penitentiaries in the United States who are subject to classification.

A Frankfort dispatch says Gov. Bradley intends to resign at an early date He wrote Mr. McKinley some weeks ago that the President-elect had no office in his gift which he (Bradley) would accept.

The Georgia Railway Commission has ordered a cut of 20 per cent. in rates for fertilizers. This means a loss to the roads in Georgia of $160,000 and indirectly it would cost them a great deal more.

It is announced that the Sugar Trust proposes duplicating the Woolson plant at an Eastern point, probably Boston or Philadelphia. The purpose of this move is to meet Arbuckle on his own camping ground.

A petition has been filed by members of the firm of Duhme & Co., jewelers, Cincinnati, for a dissolution and a receiver for the firm. They say the company is insolvent and unable to pay maturing debts.

L. Snellberger & Son, leading retail dry goods merchants of South Baltimore, have made an assignment. Liabilities, $50,000; assets about the same amount. Pressure of creditors and slow collections caused the suspension.

The B. E. Stetson and Post Saw Mill Company, at Seattle, Wash., closed its plant Monday, throwing seventy men out of employment. The over-production of lumber, together with the recent failures of Eastern banks, is the cause.

The Secret Service division of the Treasury Department reports the discovery of a new counterfeit ten dollar national bank note. It is a photographic reproduction of a note issued by the Union National Bank of Detroit, Mich.

Two unknown men went to the house of William Whaley, a farmer living two miles from Sevierville, in Sevier county, Tenn., Monday night, and without speaking a word, broke down the door, walked in and shot and killed Whaley and his wife.

Fires will be lighted on Thursday in furnace "A" of the Maryland Steel Company, at Sparrow's Point, giving employment to about 150 men who have been idle since September. It is expected that the number will be increased to 500 within two months.

It was erroneously reported in the dispatches of Christmas day that the Schmer Piano Company had been burned out, its name having been confounded with that of the Sebastian Somer Piano Company, the concern whose plant was destroyed by fire on the day mentioned.

Secretary of War Lamont has ordered the corps of cadets of the United States Military Academy at West Point to Washington at the proper time to participate in the inaugural ceremonies of the President-elect. Secretary Herbert will order the cadets of the Naval Academy to Washington at the same time.

The Southern Railway reports for November gross earnings of $1 684,178, a decrease of $208 166; expenses and taxes, $1,061,690; decrease, $110,604. Net earnings, $622,488; decrease, $93,561; from July 1st to November 30, gross, $8,138,794; decrease, $449,796. Expenses and taxes, $5,492,738; decrease, $265,974; net earnings, $2,2,716,071; decrease, $176 889.

A Prison Designed by a Convict.

Perhaps the most interesting fact about the building of Wormwood Scrubs prison is that the plans for its construction were drawn out by a convict in his cell while undergoing the probationary nine months to a long term of imprisonment.

The man was originally an architect, and among the foremost of his profession. He was a gentleman by birth and education, but in early life began to abuse his natural gifts, and at the time was undergoing his second term of imprisonment for forgery. The completion of the work occupied him for nearly six months and was effected under great disadvantages. In place of a table, for instance, he had to pin his paper to the wall of his cell, moving it round with the sun in order to obtain the best light.

The prison authorities consider this marvelous specimen of architectural drawing the finest piece of work ever done by an English convict. It measures in size 5 feet 6 inches, being drawn to the scale of a hundredth part of an inch.

The convict displayed the greatest interest and pride in the erection and completion of the prison, which was built entirely by convict labor. It contains 1,331 separate cells for prisoners, which cost on an average £70 7s. each, besides hospital wards and a chapel.

The total number of bricks required was 35,000,000, each one being made by the convicts on the premises, or on some adjoining land leased for the purpose. The iron castings were obtained from Portland or Chatham prison, the granite from Dartmoor and the Portland stone from Portland. The total cost of the prison was more than £97,000.—London Letter.

Fleshmaking Food.

Cream gruel, according to an eminent English authority, is the ideal nourishment for thin folk. A teacupful taken at night immediately before retiring is said to give marvelous results. To be at its best it must be perfectly made, then thinned with sweet cream. Taken in that condition and warm it is agreeable as well as fattening, and produces just that sense of satisfied hunger essential to ideal rest. It is claimed that perseverance in the treatment yields such apparent results that the cheeks can be seen to expand from day to day.

A GREAT SHOT.

But He Learned That Gold "Plate" Must Beat the Gun.

It was on a California ranch in early springtime. John, the cook, aged about 17 years, had offered to slay several thousands of the myriads of blackbirds which were swarming around the ranch of Brown, the boss, would furnish powder and shot. The birds were so numerous that the wheat had to be covered as soon as possible after sowing. If this was not done, the ground would be cleaned as free of the seed in a very short time as if it had never been seeded. Under these conditions Brown was not slow in furnishing the necessary ammunition.

The next morning after the breakfast dishes were cleared up John made his appearance in the field, armed with the old muzzle loading, double barreled shotgun. After stowing away a liberal amount of ammunition in the old gun he took deliberate aim at a place where the blackbirds seemed to be most numerous on the newly seeded ground. With a tremendous report the old gun belched forth its deadly charge. When John recovered from the recoil and the smoke had cleared up, he was surprised and delighted at the havoc he had caused in the swarm of birds. Perhaps 40 or 50 lay dead on the ground, and others dropped every few yards as the birds flew toward a clump of trees about 150 yards distant.

Loading the barrel which had been discharged, John proceeded toward the trees, intent on securing another shot, but as he drew nearer he was surprised to see the birds still dropping to the ground. When within about 30 yards of the trees, he stopped, undecided as to whether he had better fire again or not, for it seemed as though he must have wounded all of the birds, so continuously were they falling. As the birds did not seem to be alarmed by his presence, he concluded to count the dead ones, and find out how many he had killed with one load. Cautiously making his way under the trees, he commenced counting, and the birds kept falling. After counting about 200 dead birds, and seeing that they were still falling, he commenced to feel a little suspicious, and noticed that the birds were acting in a very unusual manner up in the tree.

"Ha, ha, ha!" yelled Brown, who had been taking it all in at a short distance, unseen by John. Laughing until he could scarcely walk, Brown approached, and John, who was sure something was wrong, demanded an explanation. "Well," said Brown, "I had just sown about a peck of poisoned wheat when you came out, and the poison commenced taking effect just after you fired."

The boys all call him "Blackbird John."—Forest and Stream.

The Beneficent Crow.

If farmers would make a study of natural history and its bearing on their property—the relation of hawks to their hencoops, for instance—there would be better paying crops.

The "Year Book" of the department of agriculture tells about crow blackbirds and what they eat. About 2,300 of their stomachs have been examined, and of these 2,358 contained food. The birds were killed in 26 states. Forty-eight per cent of the food was animal, 48 per cent vegetable and 4 per cent was mineral. The blackbird has a variety of things it eats.

"The animal food," says the report, "consisted of insects, spiders, myriapods (thousand legs), crawfish, earthworms, sowbugs, hair snakes, snails, fishes, tree toads, salamanders (newts), lizards, snakes, birds' eggs and mice." To these might have been added young birds, fish cast up by the tide, minnows caught while swimming in shallow water and probably meat and carrion of various kinds. Most of the animal food is, of course, insects. These constitute 46 per cent of the total, the other 2 per cent being the larger things, like mice. The animal food is taken mostly in the summer. In winter the food is mostly vegetable matter. The insects the bird kills more than make up the damage he does, especially as his nest robbing appears to be only an incidental habit not often indulged in. A large flock of the birds would, of course, destroy a lot of grain. Some 50,000 would eat about 3,000 pounds a day, but they would consume as many insects, which would more than destroy the amount the bird does.—New York Sun.

Rapid Photography.

Professor E. Mache of Prague is credited with some remarkable achievements in the line of rapid photography. Thus the flight of a projectile has been fastened on a sensitive plate, the exposure being estimated at probably about one-thousandth of a second. In taking this picture Professor Mache succeeded not only in showing the projectile proper upon the negative, but he also shows the air currents, and the condensing of photograph, it is thought, might explain the luminous tail on comets and on meteors, which are presumably projectiles hurled through infinite space upon a larger scale. Another of these photographic achievements is air occasioned by the flight of a leaden ball. Its current of air is diverted to all sides at an angle of about 45 degrees to the axis of the projectile, and the whirlwind in its wake shows particles of dust and other atoms carried in the atmosphere, driven with an energetic motion in the road which the projectile has just left, and following it with almost the same rapidity.

Palms.

A new wrinkle about palms which a London florist indorses is that the leaves should be washed, not with pure water, but with milk and water, which has a wonderful way of preserving them and preventing the appearance of the brown spots which are so disfiguring. Another suggestion about plants is that a little cold coffee poured over the earth at the roots occasionally will be found beneficial. Coffee is a good fertilizer. This treatment is specially recommended for hyacinths.—New York Times.

Blue Blood.

The "American physician" who makes some amazing medical or scientific discovery about once a week with undeviating regularity, and has long since become an established journalistic institution, shows signs of a tendency to abuse the hospitality so lavishly accorded him by the newspapers of two continents. His story of having found actual blue blood in his own veins, for instance, which was cabled from Philadelphia, is only fit to be told to the ultramarines. If blue blood is ever found anywhere, it will probably be elsewhere than in the United States.—London World.

Troublesome Creek's New Woman.

There lives on Troublesome creek, in Knott county, Ky., Aunt Mary Crabtree, who will be 91 years old the 15th day of August. Aunt Mary is now in possession of all her faculties, has cut a new set of teeth, and can read without glasses. The most remarkable fact of all, however, is that her hair, which was snowy white, begun to turn dark again 18 months ago, and now is of a dark, glossy brown, just the color it was when she was a girl of 18.—Philadelphia Press.

English laborers, taken the country over, average about $4.86 a week, from which they are expected to board and clothe themselves and their families.

MINISTERS' SONS PLAY CARDS.

How a Thirteen-year-old Boy Disposed of a Deck.

There is an Episcopal minister on the north side who has two sons, 13 and 11 years old respectively, of whom he is very proud. The responsibility of rearing two sons that they may be ornaments to society is deeply impressed upon the good man, and he watches his boys with a jealous eye, fearing that they may be brought under harmful influences. One morning he called the boys at the usual hour, and when he had satisfied himself that they were up he returned to his morning paper. Thirty minutes passed, but the boys did not come down stairs, and, thinking they were up to some mischief, he went quietly to their room, opened the door, and was startled to see them sitting up in bed with a deck of cards between them, playing seven-up. He did not say anything further than to tell them that breakfast was ready, but he immediately sought his wife and confided to her what he had discovered. They held a consultation and decided that it would be best for the mother to talk to them. When the morning meal was finished, she talked with her boys long and seriously on the evils of card playing, and concluded by saying that she would trust to the elder one to dispose of the deck they had some time during the day. With that the subject was dropped until evening. At the dinner table she said to him, "Harold, did you dispose of those cards?"

"Yes, mother."

"Did you destroy them?"

"No."

"Well, how did you dispose of them?"

"I sold them to the Baptist minister's son for 10 cents," was the reply.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

BUSINESS LOCALS.

NOTICES For Rent or Sale, Lost and Found Wants, and other like advertisements inserted in this Department in leaded Nonpareil type, on first or fourth page, at Publisher's option, for 1 cent per word each insertion; but no advertisement taken for less than 50 cents. Terms positively cash in advance.

Private Board—A few Boarders can be accommodate with Home Comforts at 114 Ann street. Mrs. Edgar S. Wa rock. au we fr nov 29 1m

Hay—Timothy Hay, mixed Clover Hay, Prairie Hay, Straw, Grain and all kinds of mixed feed for horses and cattle. Jno. S. McEachern, 211 Market St. Telephone 91. oct 17 tf

Hayden, F. Bro. are in stock buggies, road Carts and harness of all kinds. Repairing done by skilled workmen on short notice. Opposite new Court House. 971

NEW YEAR PRESENTS

Diaries for 1897.

New Year Cards.

Calendars 1897.

Almanacs 1897.

Blank Books.

Office Stationery.

School Books and School Supplies.

Subscriptions received for all Magazines at publishers' prices.

C. W. Yates & Co.

dec 27 tf

ORINOCO

Tobacco Guano,

Farmers' Bone

AND

Special Cotton Compound

Are the IDEAL Fertilizers.

5,000 Farmers use them in North Carolina.

Agents Wanted.

Correspondence Solicited.

F. S. Royster Guano Co.

Norfolk, Va. Baltimore, Md.

dec 24 tf

A. D. BROWN'S

Christmas Offerings

—AT—

No. 29 North Front St.

Bric-a-Brac.

Rose Jars in Black, Purple, Lemon and Pink at 40c, $1.00 and 2.00.
Pin Trays in Black, Pink and Blue, decorated, 25c each.
Hand-painted Wine and Medicine Glasses 10c each.
Real Cut Glass Vases at 75c each.
Violet Jars in shades of Pink, Blue and Green 20c each.
Low Tea Cups and Saucers in Blue, White and Pink, 35c, 65c, 20c, 15c, 25c and 50 cent. Assorted Salad Plates 15 and 20c each.
Oat Meal Sets 75c, variety of colors. Cracker Jars 75c and $1.25.
Salad Bowls, fancy shades, 50c each. Bread and Butter Plates 20c each.
Sugars and Creams, assorted, Pinks and Greens, $2.75 set.
Sugars and Creams assorted, Pinks and Greens 75, 50, 35c and $1.00.
Wedgewood in Tea Pots at $2 50; Cream Pitchers at $1.00 and $1 50.
Cut Glass Vinegar Bottles at $1.75. Venetian Vases 35 and 90c.

Dolls, Dolls, Dolls.

RUGS FROM THE ORIENT AND DOMESTIC RUGS FOR XMAS GIFTS. "Nothing certainly is as well adapted as it combines beauty with usefulness;" "a combination not at all times obtainable."

20th Century Toilet Hints.

elica te Balms, Creamy Unguents, Stimulating Lotions and Soothing Powders that could not harm the skin of a babe, find place within the sanctum of the woman who but a few years ago was practically ignorant of toilet arts.

We are sole Agents for HUDNUT'S TOILET REQUSITES.

Dress Goods, Notions, Handkerchiefs, Carpets, Laces and Gloves.

dec 10 tf

C. W. Polvogt & Co.,

No. 9 North Front St.

Jackets and Blankets

Prices Reduced. Profit Yours.

WE BEGIN WITH THE JACKETS.

Not one of the hundreds of handsome up to-date Garments escapes the price-pruner's knife. Profits go aglimmering and in many instances cost is lost sight of. There's just this about it, the stock is going to be reduced and we invite every woman in this community who has the most remote idea of making a cloak purchase this season to be first on the ground. The pick and choose is worth something.

Former Price $7.50 to $10.00, Now $5.00.
Former Price $10.50 to 15.00, Now $7.50.
Former Price $15,00 to 22.50, Now $10.00.

25 Per Cent. Discount on Our Blankets.

C. W. Polvogt & Co.,

Sole Agents for Butterick's Patterns and W. B. Corsets. dec 13 tf

WE ARE NOW WRITING

Our Christmas Advertisement

For the STAR of the Old North State that stands by us and for our interest the year round, carries our message in the homes of many of our best citizens of this country, and tells them of the many good things we have to sell.

Christmas comes but once a year;
Let every fellow have his share.

Buy your Toys and Dry Goods now, before the holiday season is past.

Our trade has been splendid this season, but we are sorry to say the season is nearly over and we are anxious to unload lots of our goods. We have made quite a lot of preparations for Santa Claus. He has for the past eight years made his headquarters with us, and we have found him to be a very generous old fellow, and he is also welcome this Christmas. We respectfully invite the little ones that Santa loves to come and leave their orders for Santa. He will be sure to attend to them. We have at Santa's disposal Dolls of all kinds dressed, from 5c to $3 50 each. China Dolls, Bisque Indestructible Cloth Dolls, Baby Dolls and Esquimo Dolls to please the eye and the pocket both.

Large and small Bureaus, Chairs, Beds, Cradles, Horns, Horses, Carts, Wagons, Pistols, Guns, Stoves, Tool Chests, Boats, Rattlers and Toys of almost every kind. We are selling these goods lower than ever before, and will try to do you good if you will give the line a look.

The trade in our Millinery Department is extra good. We are selling lots of Hats of all kinds. Felt, new style Sailors, nicely banded, at 50c each. Trimmed Hats in the latest styles at 50c to $5 00 each. Ribbon of all grades and prices the largest and best stock to select from. All the new shades of the season represented.

Our Cloakes and Capes and Dress Skirts is one of the best and brightest lines.

Our nice, new style seven gored Skirts in Crepon, at $1 00; in Brilliantine, Velvet bound, nicely lined, new and best style, at $2.00, finer, all wool, rough, new style Skirts, at $3.00, all Black and Dark Navy in fine Capes, ras Plush, at $4 00, longer and finer at $5 00; the newest style of Seal, worth $7 50, now $6 00. A very fine line of long Fur Capes. Silk lined, large Fur Collars, worth $18.00, we want to close at $11.00.

We want your trade, and to get it we will offer you the best of bargains. We are at 119 North Front street, opposite the Orton House.

Braddy & Gaylord, Prop.,

Of Wilmington's Big Racket Store.

dec 29 tf

HOLIDAY GIFTS!

THIS STYLE

and Fur Trimmed. Gents' Toilet Slippers.

PETERSON & RULFS.

dec 25 tf

ONLY A FEW MORE

TOYS AND FANCY GOODS

NOT SOLD.

Parties Wishing to Make Purchases for Xmas Tree Entertainments Will do Well to Call on us.

Bell Phone 118, Inter-State 218.

J. H. REHDER & Co.,

dec 27 tf NEAR FOURTH STREET BRIDGE.

STATEMENT ATLANTIC NATIONAL BANK, WILMINGTON, N. C.

At the close of Business Dec. 17th, 1896. Condensed from Report to Comptroller.

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans	$256,897 17	Capital	$125,000 00
Overdrafts	15 78	Surplus	$12,000 00
U. S. & other bonds (at par)	80,000 00	Undivided profits	17,725 91 — 29,725 91
Banking House and Fixtures	10,000 00	Circulation	44,970 00
Due from other Banks	155,791 88	Total De